MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

10 MARCH 1983

Nonaligned Summit Conference

Al-Asad, Al-Jumayyil Speeches, Meetings -- Syria will strongly stand by Lebanon with all Syrian capabilities in order to "liberate its territory and safeguard its unity and independence," Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad stressed in a speech to the conference broadcast by Damascus radio. The U.S. and Israeli "uproar and threats" over the missile issue "will not scare Syria or make it budge an inch from its position," Al-Asad affirmed. He added that Syria will always be ready to exercise its "legitimate right of firmly deterring aggression."

Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil declared that the aims of the Lebanese Government can be "summed up in the realization of the withdrawal of all non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon." In his speech, which was broadcast by Beirut radio, Al-Jumayyil emphasized his government's "resolute determination that Lebanon should have an impregnable security system and a strong national army" so that Lebanon can "dispense with any hired security" and defend itself alone.

During a 10 March news conference reported by AFP, Al-Jumayyil described his 9-10 March talks with Al-Asad as "very fruitful" and said they should produce "concrete results." The Lebanese president reaffirmed his willingness to develop cordial relations and entente between Syria and Lebanon, AFP added.

Mubarak Statements -- Egyptian President Husni Mubarak reutrned to Cairo via Oman where he met with Sultan Qabus Ibn Sa'id, Cairo radio reported. Commenting on the conference, Mubarak declared that Egypt has regained its position within the Nonaligned Movement and he noted that the Arabs unanimously rejected Libya's request for Egypt's expulsion from the movement, according to MENA. Mubarak said he did not meet with any PLO leaders in New Delhi, despite their requests for such meetings, because of what happened during the Palestine National Council session in Algiers, MENA added. According to an earlier MENA report, he stated that the restoration of diplomatic relations with Jordan was not discussed during his meeting with King Husayn. MENA subsequently announced that Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali will now head the Egyptian delegation at the conference.

Iran-Iraq War -- Iraq is prepared "to accept a cease-fire agreement without any preconditions" and to begin negotiations toward a comprehensive and just settlement of the Iraq-Iran conflict, TANJUG reported citing a speech by Iraqi Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf. Ma'ruf proposed the formation of a nonaligned committee to search for a peaceful solution to the conflict and to determine who started the war and who is responsible for continuing it. He said that Iraq is ready to accept the committee's findings "in advance." On 10 March, however, Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi declared that Iran "would show no mercy toward Iraq" and would not allow Baghdad to derive "pleasure or profit" from an end to the conflict, AFP reported.

Afghanistan -- Afghan Prime Minister Soltan Ali Keshtmand asserted that the real solution to the "Afghan tangle" can be found in direct and serious negotiations with the Afghan Government, AFP reported on 10 March. He added that the mediation of the UN secretary general have "yielded positive results" and that his government will cooperate fully "to narrow down the differences," AFP added.

Oil Affairs

To stabilize the market price of oil at $34 per barrel, Iran proposed that its oil production be reduced by 1 million barrels per day, Tehran radio announced. Earlier, Qatari Oil Minister Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifa Al Thani disclosed that OPEC's reference price will be reduced by $4-5, KUNA reported.

Lebanon, Syria, Israel

Syrian Missiles -- The deployment of new Soviet missiles in Syria, "some of which are in Lebanon," constitutes a change in the situation, but a solution will be found for this, Israeli Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Refa'el Eytan announced in a statement reported by Jerusalem radio on 10 March.

Withdrawal From Lebanon -- Syria does not object to a "synchronized withdrawal" of Syrian and Israeli forces from Lebanon and is ready to do anything to help end the Israeli occupation, Syrian Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad announced in a statement to the Lebanese magazine AS-SAYYAD reported by Radio Monte Carlo. He also said Syria is ready to receive U.S. presidential envoy Philip Habib.

Previewing Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's visit to Washington, Jerusalem radio said Shamir will present the Americans with new opening positions and ideas. Noting that a "basic change in the Israeli conception" has led Israeli decisionmakers to reformulate their demands in the negotiations over Lebanon, the radio reiterated that Israel has given up its desire for a permanent presence in southern Lebanon and is examining alternative arrangements to safeguard its northern border. Israel's stance concerning Major Sa'd Haddad, UNIFIL, and normalization arrangements has also become more flexible, the radio said.

Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salim will also visit Washington shortly but will negotiate only with the Americans and will not meet Shamir, according to Beirut sources cited by AFP. Meanwhile, Salim told a New Delhi news conference that Lebanon will under no circumstances sign a peace treaty with Israel or establish relations with it, Beirut radio reported. He said Syria and the PLO have promised to carry out a simultaneous withdrawal of their forces from Lebanon.

Netanya Talks -- Three subcommittees resumed work at Netanya on 10 March, the Lebanese Information Ministry announced in a report broadcast by Beirut radio.

Security -- A bomb exploded near Major Sa'd Haddad's Voice of Hope television station damaging the equipment but causing no casualties, Jerusalem Radio reported. A senior PLO official responsible for the Palestinian refugees in Lebanon was shot in Beirut, Voice of Lebanon radio subsequently reported. Beirut radio noted renewed clashes and tension in the northern city of Tripoli.

Palestinian Affairs

PLO on Reagan Plan -- The PLO spokesman at the Nonaligned Conference 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, criticized the Reagan plan during an 8 March press conference, calling it an "invitation to war," according to San'a' Voice of Palestine radio.

POW Exchange -- PLO Deputy Military Commander Khalil al-Wazir blamed Israel for the suspension of negotiations over the release of PLO and IDF prisoners, Jerusalem radio reported. He said the Israelis have refused to submit a full list of Palestinian prisoners and claimed that the IDF has murdered 30 Palestinians in Ansar camp.

Iraq

Iraqi "mujahidin" attacked oil storage tanks at 'Ayn Zalah, Iraq, setting them on fire and destroying turbine pumps, according to a statement by the mujahidin's military office broadcast by Tehran radio's Arabic service.

Sudan

Authorities have arrested 56 persons accused of plotting against Sudan's security and planning to stage sabotage operations, MENA reported citing an official announcement in Khartoum. The defendents were trained and sponsored by Libya and were members of the Libyan-backed "revolutionary committees," the statement said.

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'ARAFAT 'READY' FOR LEBANON WITHDRAWAL

JN091638 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has held an expanded meeting with Lebanese President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil in the presence of the Palestinian and Lebanese delegations attending the Nonaligned Movement's meetings in New Delhi.

Abu 'Ammar told the Lebanese president that he is ready to withdraw the [Palestinian] fighters from Lebanon upon a request from President al-Jumayyil provided this will lead to the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon and after guaranteeing the safety of the civilian Palestinians in Beirut and southern Lebanon.

Brother Abu 'Ammar and President al-Jumayyil earlier met without the presence of their delegation.

PLO SPOKESMAN PRAISES SYRIA, DECRIES U.S.

JN090801 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] New Delhi -- PLO official Spokesman 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar has praised the Syrian forces' heroic steadfastness in confronting the Zionist invasion of Lebanon. In a press conference in New Delhi, Abu Mayzar said that the Syrian Arab forces, in cooperation with the joint forces, had waged heroic battles in Lebanon, during which the Arab soldier proved his bravery and selflessness in defending the cause in which he believes.

Abu Mayzar stressed that the United States does not really wish to establish a just, lasting peace in the Middle East. He added that the plans proposed by the United States are mere propaganda aimed at deceiving world public opinion.

Further Report

GF091655 San'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Text] PLO official spokesman 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar has praised the serious and continuous support the Arab countries provide the Palestinian revolution on all levels. In a press conference in New Delhi today, brother Abu Mayzar denied reports that the Arab countries abandoned the PLO during the Zionist invasion of Lebanon last summer. He stressed that Arab forces did fight alongside the Palestinian forces there.

The PLO official spokesman reiterated the PLO support for the Arab peace plan which stems from the latest Fes summit. He also launched a strong attack against the initiative of U.S. President Reagan, calling it an invitation to war. Brother Abu Mayzar indicated that the U.S. plan ignored two basic points for resolving the Middle East issue and ensuring peace in the region: the right of the Palestinian people to establish their independent state and the right to return to their homeland.

OPEC REPORTEDLY TO REDUCE REFERENCE PRICE "$4 TO $5"

LD091336 Kuwait KUNA in English 1305 GMT 9 Mar 83

[By Shamil Khayri]

[Text] London March 9 (KUNA) -- OPEC's reference prices will be reduced by between $4 to $5 Qatar's oil minister, Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifa Al Thani, said here today.

OPEC FUND TO MAINTAIN CURRENT AID LEVEL

GF091330 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 9 Mar 83 p 20

[Correspondent's report]

[Text] Dhaka -- The director-general of the OPEC Fund for International Development, Dr Ibrahim F.I. Shihata, yesterday said the fund would maintain its present level of assistance to the recipient countries while trying to concentrate on countries in "greater need."

Dr Shihata, who arrived here yesterday on a three-day visit to Bangladesh, told newsmen at the Zia International Airport, that Bangladesh's share in the OPEC aid would not be allowed to be affected.

He said he would discuss with the Bangladesh finance minister the OPEC fund's future operations in the country and its development priorities besides ways and means of more fruitful cooperation.

Dr Shihata said Bangladesh was the second largest recipient of OPEC aid. The fund had extended balance of payments support to Bangladesh and seven projects loans. Two project grants were also made to Bangladesh's International Centre for Diarrhoeal Diseases and Research.

Bangladesh, he added, has so far received an assistance of 130 million dollars since the inception of the fund in 1977. Forty-five million dollars was given as balance of payments support and 85 million dollars as project loans.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC STATES DISCUSS COLLECTIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

LD091332 Riyadh SPA in English 1238 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Dubai, March 9 (SPA) -- A Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) five-year development plan, marking the beginning of collective planning among member states, is being drawn up, GCC Secretary-General Abdallah Bishara was quoted as saying in an interview published here today.

He told the paper AL-BAYAN that the plan would be discussed at a planning ministers conference, due to be held in Bahrain next month.

Mr Bishara said the six member states of the council were trying to diversify their sources of income by giving due attention to agriculture and industry which provided a great economic value.

Ministers of industry have agreed on setting up a plant for car and machine spare parts in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) as a step towards economic integration, he added.

Several studies are also underway on the economic feasibility of building a railway network linking Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Qatar, Oman, Bahrain and Kuwait, Mr Bishara said.

The GCC secretary-general said that member states were seeking to coordinate their economic policies by conducting a full survey of the economic potential in the Gulf and discussing ways of embarking on various economic ventures.

In line with this coordination, licences for additional cement factories have been shelved for the time being to find out the exact requirements of this commodity needed by the region, he added.

Implementation of the unified economic agreement among GCC members means total economic unity of the Gulf, he said.

BRIEFS

UNIFORM GCC PASSPORTS -- Press reports in Kuwait have indicated that GCC citizens will soon be issued uniform passports that are difficult to forge. GCC passport and immigration department directors have agreed on the size and content of the uniform passport. The Kuwaiti paper AL-QABAS quoted an informed source as saying that a recommendation was presented to the GCC interior ministers that every passport have the name and insignia of the issuing country and the words "member of the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council countries" printed underneath. [Manama WAKH in Arabic 0730 GMT 5 Mar 83 GF]

KUWAIT

GULF LEADERS WITHDRAW FROM DELHI SUMMIT

GF091717 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 8 Mar 83 p 1

[Editorial: "The Gulf States and the Massacres of Muslims in Assam"]

[Text] It was obvious that as the Arabian Gulf states were going to New Delhi to take part in the nonaligned summit, they did so unwillingly because of the savage massacres that were perpetrated against the Muslims in the Indian state of Assam.

Although the Indian Government mobilized its military forces to that state in order to stop the massacre, no one can diminish its role and legal and moral responsibility for this tragedy.

Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi should have acted differently in spite of her indication of the involvement of U.S. intelligence in plotting this massacre with the aim of distorting India's reputation in order to prevent India's resumption of the leadership of the Nonalignment Movement. The matter turned into a horrible disaster. Tens of thousands of Muslims were slaughtered in the most savage and barbaric ways. Even children and women were slaughtered in an unthinkable manner.

Mrs Gandhi was at least supposed to stop the massacre decisively, particularly since it took place on the eve of a huge international conference that includes no less than fifty Islamic states.

It is natural that the Muslims everywhere have been deliberately hurt, even if it wasn't Mrs Gandhi who perpetrated the acts. Thus, the leaders of the Gulf states found no choice but to leave this conference being convened in India while the blood of the Muslims has not yet dried and even continues to be shed at this moment.

What the leaders of the Gulf states did is the natural and expected stand. It is an initiative to protest against the massacres of Muslims in Assam, which is a sectarian massacre that was plotted in a manner that is neither recorded in legends nor recalled by memory.

However, it is certain that the Gulf action is not directed against the conference or against the Nonaligned Movement, but against the host government who did not act to prevent this massacre or stop it at the proper time.

This Gulf stand was a natural response to the simplest and spontaneous feelings toward a massacre to which their Muslim brothers are being subjected in one of the Indian states, Assam.

Whatever the matter may be, the Indian Government cannot evade the responsibility. Perhaps it is this situation which made the Gulf states adopt this stand by going to New Delhi to stress their association with the conference and the movement and then by withdrawing to protest against the stand of the Indian Government toward the massacre in the state of sins [atham] itself.

MINISTER DENIES REPORTS OF MONETARY CHANGES

LD091341 Kuwait KUNA in English 1153 GMT 9 Mar 83

[M. Baker report]

[Text] Kuwait, March 9 (KUNA) -- "Reports that Kuwait is thinking to revise the value of the dinars are completely unfounded," Finance and Planning Minister 'Abd al-Latif Yusuf al-Hamad said Wednesday.

"Despite all problems facing the international economy, and the oil market in particular, Kuwait's economy is by far better than other economies", Al-Hamad added in an interview with KUNA.

Kuwait's national currency, the dinar, is and will continue to enjoy stability and the strength it deserves.

The state is maintaining a solid economic base and will not be affected by the prevailing circumstances, the minister said, adding, there is no justification to even think of revision let alone the implementation of any such steps.

Affirming that there is no thinking of any devaluation or revaluation of the dinar against other currencies, the finance and planning minister said the stable value of the dinar is a basic factor in the strength enjoyed by Kuwait's economy.

The stability had enabled our economy to stand solid in face of the violent economy currents now cornering the international economy and affecting both industrialized and developing countires, he added.

Asked to comment on developments in the gold market, Al-Hamad said current price fluctuations reflect the psychological mood of the market which was created by a lack of clarity in the oil market and subsequently in Kuwait's investments.

Those fluctuations will not affect the economy because Kuwait is investing on long-term basis and not speculating in the market.

Fluctuations in the gold market are also without strong effects and are touching on a marginal manner on Kuwait's investments, he pointed.

The increasing value of the dollar against other currencies is having a positive reflection on oil proceeds. The dollar can be used in buying other currencies needed for importing the country's economic needs.

Kuwait's economy is a mature one capable of standing in the face of all types of international economic developments, fluctuations of major currencies, main raw materials or world prices.

In reply to a question, Al-Hamad affirmed that the 7.5 percent discounting rate for shares traded in post-dated deals is a fair and calculated one.

We have gone a long way in solving the money market crisis and settlements made so far indicate that everything is now heading towards a normal situation, he said.

OMAN

MUBARAK STOPS OVER, MEETS QABUS, DEPARTS

GF091732 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak arrived in the country from New Delhi today after leading his country's delegation to the Seventh Nonaligned Summit. Among those who received him and his delegation upon arrival at Salalah Civil Airport was Sultan Qabus Sa'id, in addition to Hamad ibn Hamud, minister of royal diwan affairs; 'Abd al-'Aziz ar-Rawwas, minister of information; Major General 'Ali Majid al-Ma'mari, first military aide and chairman of the palace office; and the Egyptian ambassador in the sultanate.

The Egyptian president held talks with his brother Sultan Qabus which dealt with strengthening bilateral relations and the current situation in the Arab and international arenas in addition to the issues discussed at the Seventh Nonaligned Summit.

President Husni Mubarak and the delegation accompanying him left the country this afternoon for Egypt. Foremost of those who saw him off at the airport was Sultan Qabus in addition to Hamad ibn Hamud, minister of royal diwan affairs; 'Abd al-'Aziz ar-Rawwas, minister of information; Maj Gen 'Ali Majid al-Ma'mari, first military aide and chairman of the palace office.

Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, made a statement to radio and television correspondents in which he affirmed that the meeting between Sultan Qabus and his brother President Husni Mubarak was for further coordination between the two fraternal countries and further diplomatic cooperation in various fields.

Regarding a question on the expected results of the nonaligned summit he said: It is hard to make a final assessment about this conference because it is still in progress. However, at this point we can say that the conference is successful in realizing the most important targets of the Nonaligned Movement, in the work to restore security and peace in the world, and for disarmament and further economic cooperation among various world countries.

In response to a question concerning his country's view on the nonaligned summit regarding the settlement of the Iraqi-Iranian conflict, he said: In fact, no decision was issued on this subject. However, there are efforts being made to find a framework that might help to find a solution -- even if a partial one -- to that dangerous confrontation between the two neighboring countries.

SAUDI ARABIA

'UKAZ: U.S. MUST HONOR COMMITMENTS

PM090953 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 4 Mar 83 p 3

[Editorial: "Lebanon Between Arab Credibility and U.S. Credibility"]

[Text] The Arab and Palestinian position on the question of a peaceful settlement in the Middle East is crystal clear. It is based on eight principles contained in the Arab peace plan, which became a Palestinian strategy at the 16th session of the Palestine National Council [PNC], just as it is an Arab strategy for political action at the international level to promote a just, comprehensive, and peaceful settlement of the Palestinian question, the Arab-Israeli conflict, and the question of the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all Lebanese territory.

The Arabs have not closed the door completely on President Reagan's initiative. They, including a Palestinian consensus under the leadership of Yasir 'Arafat, have left the door open to the positive aspects of the U.S. initiative. These positive aspects are: ending the Israeli occupation of Lebanon and freezing the building of settlements in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The principle here is that contacts and consultations would create common ground between the Arab initiative and the U.S. initiative as a first step toward fulfilling the other components of the Arab plan.

The Zionist state, however, rejects both the Arab and U.S. plans. In doing so, it confuses the U.S. Administration, rendering it incapable of understanding that the Arabs cannot offer anything for a comprehensive settlement except the Arab plan and that asking more of them means siding with Israel or refraining from putting effective and fruitful pressure on it.

The Lebanese-Israeli-American talks seem to indicate that Washington, while aware of Israel's expansionist aims in Lebanon and elsewhere in the Arab world, is content with making statements and with presidential envoy Philip Habib's shuttle diplomacy.

Habib is looking for a compromise solution, not a radical solution to the problem of Zionist expansion in Arab territory.

The fact is that the Israeli invasion forces' occupation of Lebanon is part of the Zionist expansionist designs, which clearly ignore the Palestinian people's legitimate right to self-determination and to an independent Palestinian state.

Israel is using Lebanon and the current negotiations there as a game of armwisting with the U.S. Administration. Its aim is to waste time and foil the U.S. initiative.

The United States, instead of putting more pressure on Israel to abort its designs, is asking the Arabs to make more concessions. This is in fact a topsy-turvey position making U.S. credibility suspect in the eyes of the Arab states which, in consensus with the Palesinians, have committed themselves to accepting a peaceful settlement which does not neglect the inalienable rights of the Arabs and the Palestinians.

That is why we emphasize here that it is now only up to the United States, not the Arabs or the Palestinians, to decide. Washington is requested to bring about complete Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon in accordance with an agreed timetable without prejudice to Lebanon's sovereignty and without so-called security conditions being imposed by the Zionist invasion forces.

We have proven our credibility and our sincere interest in peace. It remains for President Reagan's administration to honor its commitments in Lebanon first before moving onto the negotiations on the future of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

RADIO ON IRANIAN COOPERATION WITH ISRAEL

LD091649 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 9 Mar 83

[News analysis by Jasir 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Jasir]

[Text] Following the purchase of arms [words indistinct] the Tehran regime is strongly cooperating with the Zionist rulers. What is taking place in Lebanon is only one form of this cooperation. The hatred by the ayatollah's regime is such that it has resorted to cheap intrigues as revenge in order to hit Iraq, which they cannot do by force.

The Tehran regime has started to coordinate actions in a scandalous manner with the Israeli entity in Lebanon against the French force participating in the multinational forces, only because France has sold arms to Iraq in the same way it sells arms to any other country that wants to buy weapons. The U.S. and Lebanese intelligence services were able to expose the Zionist-Iranian plot which aims at more than hitting Iraq. It is aimed at weakening and confusing the Lebanese authorities while they are facing Israeli intransigence and ambitions in the current negotiations; that is, to exert pressure on it in order to gain some concessions. The aim of annoying the French unit is to remove it [word indistinct] as the Israeli forces had done before against the U.S. force but failed.

If this behavior is not surprising from Israel, it is, also, not unlikely from Iran as it could not fool international public opinion and [word indistinct] with their revolution slogan. Their cooperation with the Zionist enemy [words indistinct] and the Tehran rulers admitted it publicly. But the question we are forced to ask is: Have the rulers of Tehran decided to create a (?satanical) alliance in the area and to fight with it in the same trench against the Arab nation?

UAE

HEIR APPARENT, IRANIAN AMBASSADOR MEET

GF091128 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] The ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the UAE, accompanied by the Iranian consul in Dubai, met with the Dubai heir apparent, the UAE deputy prime minister and minister of defense.

During the meeting, the Dubai heir apparent praised the positions adopted by the Islamic Republic of Iran toward its neighbors. He said: Now we have a strong Islamic Iran on our side and we are certain that Islamic Iran does not desire a single inch of its neighbors' territory. Moreover, the Dubai heir apparent called for developing and bolstering friendly bilateral relations.

At the end of the meeting, the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran extended an official invitation to Shaykh Rashid ibn Maktum, the ruler of Dubai, to visit Iran.

UAE INTENDS TO UNDERCUT COMPETITORS' OIL PRICES

LD071803 Kuwait KUNA in English 1639 GMT 7 Mar 83

[Text] London, March 7 (KUNA) -- Oil Minister Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah warned here Monday that the Arab Gulf states were determined on slashing their oil prices by more than the other countries intend to do in case consensus was not reached on a new unified price.

In statements to KUNA, the minister asserted that there will be "no backing" from the decision reached by the Arab Gulf states during a meeting in Riyadh last February 22.

At the time, oil ministers of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, UAE and Iraq had announced readiness to cut their oil prices within an overall agreement by OPEC worked out at an emergency meeting. The ministers had, however, warned that unless OPEC states are committed to a new reduced oil price, the Arab Gulf states will cut their prices by more than other OPEC countries can endure.

PDRY

BRIEFS

YSP DELEGATION DEPARTS -- The YSP delegation, led by brother Hadi Ahmad Nasir, member of the Central Committee and first secretary of the Aden Province party organization, left for Damascus this morning to participate in the celebrations of the 14th anniversary of DFLP. The delegation then will head for Malta to participate in an international seminar to discuss the situation in Lebanon as a result of the Zionist invasion. [Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 3 Mar 83 GF]

MUBARAK RETURNS FROM NEW DELHI CONFERENCE 9 MAR

NC091616 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak returned home this evening upon conclusion of his visit to India during which he headed Egypt's delegation to the Seventh Nonaligned Summit Conference and in which he delivered Egypt's speech. His excellency also held a series of meetings with heads of Arab, African, and Asian states.

The president was welcomed upon his arrival in Cairo by Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, People's Assembly speaker Dr Sufi Abu Talib, Consultative Council speaker Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim, Deputy Prime Minister and Defense Minister Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, the deputy prime ministers, the ministers and senior state officials.

On his way back from New Delhi, President Mubarak stopped over in Oman where he met with Sultan Qabus and briefed him on the outcome of his talks and meetings in New Delhi.

Summit 'Excellent and Successful'

NC091715 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1650 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Cairo, 9 Mar (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has stated that the current Nonaligned Summit Conference is considered an excellent and successful international conference.

In a statement to journalists following his return to Cairo this evening, President Mubarak said that his visit to India was a good opportunity for him to meet with a large number of nonaligned states' leaders and Arab brothers.

Answering a question on his meeting with Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id on his way back to Cairo, President Mubarak said that he met with Sultan Qabus within the framework of the permanent consultations between the two countries, and especially since Sultan Qabus will make a tour before the end of this month during which he will visit the United States and a number of European countries.

Replying to a question about his meeting with King Husayn of Jordan and the subjects they discussed, President Mubarak said that he discussed with King Husayn the subject of Jordan's incorporation into the settlement negotiations, since this is the subject of the hour.

He added: We are awaiting the outcome of the contacts between the PLO and King Husayn for agreement on the formation of a joint delegation to begin contacts with the United States to do what can be done. Asked whether he discussed with King Husayn the subject of the restoration of diplomatic relations between Egypt and Jordan, President Mubarak said that this subject was not discussed in the meeting. Asked to comment on Egypt's request to suspend Libya's membership in the Nonaligned Movement, President Mubarak said: We do not pay much attention to this. [sentence as received]

President Comments on Meetings

LD092406 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2010 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Cairo, 9 Mar (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak has declared that Egypt has regained its position within the Nonaligned Movement. It suffices to note that when Libya asked for Egypt's expulsion from the movement the Arabs unanimously rejected this. He added that even when 'Abd as-Salam Jallud called for this in his speech, because of their scorn for what he said all the Arab and non-Arab delegates asked Egypt not to reply to Libya.

President Mubarak was speaking to press chief editors and MENA in the plane on his way home from the Nonaligned Summit Conference in New Delhi. He said that this time the Nonaligned Summit Conference has undergone a complete change.

He said that he met with a large number of heads of Arab, African, and Asian countries, and those he did not have time to meet he shook hands with. He pointed out that many expressed their wish to meet with him, but time did not permit him to do so. [words indistinct] Sri Lanka [words indistinct]

Speaking of his meetings with Arab leaders, President Mubarak said that he met with most of them and shook hands with Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal.

As for King Husayn, President Mubarak said he stayed with him throughout the reception held by Indian Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi. He said: [word indistinct] Pakistani prime minister. Immediately after that King Husayn called on me and met with me for 2 hours. On the following day I visited him for 1 hour, Mubarak said.

President Mubarak said that in his talks with King Husayn they discussed the future of the Palestine question. He added: I felt that King Husayn was afraid that time might be lost, since time is not on the cause's side, particularly with fast building of the settlements. We also discussed all future steps and likelihoods. Speaking of Libya's attempts, President Mubarak said that the odd thing is that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi keeps in touch with us. His last contact was only a week ago. But on the same day that he sent a message to Cairo he makes a speech pouring abuse over Egypt and instructing his delegate to secure Egypt's expulsion from the Nonaligned Movement.

President Mubarak said he did not meet with any of the PLO leaders in New Delhi, despite their requests for such meetings. This is because of what happened at Algiers.

President Mubarak said: I am here as a representative of the Egyptian people, who have their dignity and do not distinguish between a so-called national movement and the cause of a people. All those I met in New Delhi deplored Abu Iyad's statements to the Saudi paper (AL-YAMAMAH).

President Mubarak said that the decision concerning the Palestinian cause is now in the Palestinians' hands. He added that: He who contemplates Camp David's annulment will cause a great harm to the cause. The Camp David accords are the only documents we have, and Egypt, as well as the Arabs, lose a great deal of prestige by even talking about such matters.

Speaking of his meetings with the African leaders, President Mubarak said that he has met with the heads of state of Zambia, Guinea, Zaire, Somalia, Mali, Nigeria, and Kenya. He said that the Nigerian vice president had delivered a message from Nigerian President Shehu Shagari to him and that he had discussed the forthcoming African summit next June with the Kenyan President arap Moi.

President Mubarak also said that he met with most of the Asian heads of state, adding that most of the delegates welcomed his speech at the Nonaligned Summit Conference because he rose above trivialities and concentrated on international problems of interest to the Nonaligned Movement. He pointed out that most of the heads of states invited him to visit their countries, and he invited them to visit Egypt.

Speaking of his meeting with Mrs Indira Gandhi, President Mubarak said that he met with her twice, during which they discussed economic cooperation within the Nonaligned Movement. He added that she promised to continue her efforts to bolster this cooperation among the movement's member countries.

ABU GHAZALAH SCORES PALESTINIAN STATEMENTS

NC091650 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1530 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Excerpt] Cairo, 9 Mar (MENA) -- Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and military production, has described the statements voiced by some Palestinian leaders concerning the Egyptian people and army as vituperations and said that the Egyptian ARmed Forces spurn such vituperations.

In an address today during a ceremony marking martyr's day, Abu Ghazalah expressed hope that the Nonaligned Movement will be an effective force in the world and will play a major role in settling international problems by peaceful means. He affirmed that peace without strength is meaningless.

Abu Ghazalah noted that the developing states, which form the majority of the nonaligned countries, are exposed to a common threat, represented by the major powers' attempt to impose their domination and influence.

Abu Ghazalah said that Egypt seeks to achieve cooperation in the field of military industrialization with all the friendly countries in the world, whether they are nonaligned states or others.

Abu Ghazalah attended the ceremony which the Armed Forces held today on the occasion of martyr's day. During the ceremony he placed a wreath on the tomb of the unknown soldier on behalf of President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. He also placed a wreath on the tomb of late President Anwar as-Sadat.

ABU GHAZALAH INTERVIEWED ON SECURITY POLICY

PM091423 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 6 Mar 83 p 3

[Deputy Prime Minister and Defense Minister Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah interviewed by ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT correspondent in Cairo -- date not given]

[Excerpt] [Question] Which are Egypt's national security borders in the east, where do they begin, and how is this security achieved?

[Answer] National security is affected and basically linked to factors that threaten or bolster the mainstays of the state: its territory, people, and political regime as well as its interests in various fields. Therefore, we cannot draw a line on the map and say that this is the boundary of our national security and what happens beyond this boundary has nothing to do with it.

National security is distinguished by relative characteristics and depends on factors which affect it. For example what happened in the Falklands war affected the Middle East and what is happening between Iraq and Iran affects our national security. What happens in Lebanon and in the southern part of the Red Sea also affects our security. Therefore, the boundary of Egyptian national security in the east is the boundary of the area that affects or could affect our interests directly or indirectly. As to how this security can be achieved, this is a subject that needs lengthy explanation. But the fundamental principles of achieving this security can be briefly explained as follows:

A. Seeking to mollify and resolve conflicts in the area in a manner that will prevent their exploitation by any power that might jeopardize our interests.

B. The need for us to possess the strength as a means for deterring any power from seeking to threaten us militarily, economically, or politically.

C. The need to achieve Arab detente and solidarity that will guarantee higher Arab interests to shun differences over tactics.

[Question] We hear a lot about Israel's explicit and implicit threats to Egypt. What is your opinion?

[Answer] It is a known fact that statements in general are one of the political methods and tactics that serve a particular objective. Any statements from any side implying threats to Egypt are studied and analyzed and we make a suitable response to them.

[Question] What if the contacts on the issue of Tabah should reach deadlock?

[Answer] The problem of Tabah is a purely technical one relating to border demarcation in a triangular area of about 800 to 1,200 meters [as published]. This problem is still being dealt with at the negotiating table, but if the negotiations fail we will resort to arbitration. We are confident that the Tabah problem can be solved through diplomatic means. Our stand on it is quite clear and is based on lucid and accurate documents.

[Question] What is the position regarding arms of Eastern origin in Egypt and our relations with the Soviet Union?

[Answer] As is known, we have not received any arms or spare parts from the Soviet Union for a long time. But we are working in order to prolong the life of the arms of Eastern origin in our possession and to develop them with our own means within the military industry so that we can use these arms for the longest time possible. This is because we are a developing country and we do not have the material means to enable us to replace overnight the Eastern arms that we possess.

Meanwhile, we are continuing to receive Western arms from many countries, which is within our policy of arms diversification. With regard to our relations with the Soviet Union there have been no new developments, and we have no relations with them at present in the military field.

[Question] It is being said that Egyptian pilots are operating in Iraq. Does Egypt have forces or troops outside the borders?

[Answer] Egypt does not have a single regular soldier outside Egypt. All the Egyptians serving with the Iraqi Armed Forces -- if reports about their presence are true -- are those Egyptians who have emigrated to Iraq and acquired Iraqi citizenship like all the other emigrants. They have nothing to do with the Egyptian authorities. With regard to the rumor that there are Egyptian pilots or forces in Iraq, it is unfounded. We have supplied Iraq with some arms and ammunition, particularly from our own production, in order to help it secure its borders.

[Question] Is there anything new regarding military bases for the United States or the joint maneuvers with the U.S. forces?

[Answer] There are no U.S. bases in Egypt. Egypt has often declared and President Mubarak has often stressed that we do not accept foreign bases on our territory. With regard to joint maneuvers or exercises, we have already held joint exercises which were of great benefit for both sides in the field of tactics. With regard to future exercises we welcome such exercises with any friendly states as long as there is a benefit in them for our armed forces in the field of gaining tactical and military experience.

[Question] Do you not see that having special relations with the United States is contrary to nonalignment?

[Answer] The Egyptian leadership has affirmed its adherence to the policy of nonalignment and the pursuance of a balanced policy in its foreign relations with the world's countries -- relations based on mutual respect and noninterference in our internal affairs.

Describing the Egyptian-U.S. relations as special relations is incorrect. Egypt has strong relations with the United States and these relations are founded on sound basis comprising:

Mutual understanding and respect between the two countries and noninterference in the affairs of one another.

Congruence of interests between the two states with regard to the need for the attainment of peace and stability in the area and for the United States to play the role of full partner in the peace process.

The United States' understanding of our security needs which is clearly reflected in the volume of U.S. aid and loans to Egypt.

The strong relations that link Egypt and the United States are countered on the other hand by strong relations between Egypt and several other countries, such as France and China. These strong and solid relations are based on clear principles and on mutual respect and do not affect our policies in the field of nonalignment.

[Question] Have the Egyptian forces been withdrawn from the Libyan borders?

[Answer] As you know, the ties between Egypt and Libya have been severed now for a fairly long time as a result of differences in Egyptian and Libyan views, particularly regarding peace with Israel. The Libyan leadership adheres to its own views and stances and it is free to do so. For our part we have no aggressive designs against Libya. All that we hope for is to resolve Arab differences and achieve Arab solidarity. In any case our military position on the Egyptian-Libyan borders is basically to provide the necessary defense to secure our borders.

COMMUNIQUE ON 8-9 MAR IRANIAN BATTLE LOSSES

JN091731 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1705 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Communique No 1,023 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 9 March]

[Text] In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate.

With increasing enthusiasm and continued readiness to defend strong and beloved Iraq, our valiant armed forces pursue their activities in the battlefield against the enemy forces of expansion. The results of the activities yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units struck an enemy concentration opposite their positions in the central sector of the battlefield, killing 15 and destroying 1 personnel carrier, 2 106-mm guns, and 5 observation posts.

2. Our valiant aircraft today raided enemy positions and concentrations in the Maysan operational sector and enemy military targets deep within enemy territory in the same sector, inflicting more losses on the enemy. All our aircraft returned safely to base.

3. An enemy concentration was sighted opposite one of our unit's positions in the east Basra area. Our units struck the enemy concentration with all kinds of weapons, killing 11, wounding many, and destroying 1 vehicle, 1 106-mm gun, 7 personnel positions, 1 hardware stockpile and 3 observation posts.

4. Four were killed in the Maysan operational sector. One of our combat patrols discovered several light weapons and various military equipment left behind by the enemy during the recent Ash-Shib battles.

5. The artillery of the odious Khomeyniite clique today intermittently shelled Mandali and Zurbatiyah causing some damage to civilian installations.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 9 March 1983

ABU NIDAL GROUP THREATENS BRITISH JUDGES

NC091237 Paris AFP in English 1133 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Paris, March 9 (AFP) -- A caller claiming to represent the Abu Nidal Palestinian group today threatened to teach Zionist British judges the language of justice in a communique telephoned to the offices here of AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

The call followed the conviction and sentencing by a London court last Saturday of three Arabs accused of having tried to kill the Israeli ambassador to Britain last June.

The shooting of Ambassador Shlomo Argov was seen as having triggered the Israeli invasion of Lebanon June 6.

The Abu Nidal group, also known as Fatah-revolutionary council, is considered to have broken away from the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

The caller, who claimed to be telephoning from Kuwait, accused PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir Arafat and one of his advisors, Issam Sartawi, of belonging to U.S. intelligence services.

The Old Bailey court in London sentenced an Iraqi national, Nauff Rosan, 35, who was thought to be the leader of the band that attached Mr Argov, to 35 years in prison.

Ghassan Sa'ad, 23, and Marwan al-Banna, 20, both Jordanians were given prison terms of 30 years.

SALIM TO VISIT U.S. TO DISCUSS TALKS IMPASSE

NC092016 Paris AFP in English 1922 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Beirut, March 9 (AFP) -- Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salim is to go to the United States next week to discuss the impasse in tripartite talks on withdrawal of foreign troops from the country, according to reliable sources here.

Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir is due in Washington tomorrow, but it is understood that the two sides will conduct talks only with the Americans and will not meet one another.

Mr Salim will be accompanied by head of the Lebanese delegation to the talks Antoine Fattal, while Mr Shamir will be joined by David Kimche, head of the Israeli delegation to the tripartite negotiations which have been held alternately in Israel and Lebanon.

Accepts Shultz Invitation

NC100649 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 10 Mar 83

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim will go to Washington tomorrow in response to an official invitation from U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. The invitation was conveyed yesterday to Minister Salim in New Delhi by the U.S. ambassador to India. U.S. sources said the discussions between Shultz and Salim will deal with the question of the withdrawal of the foreign forces from Lebanon.

Voice of Lebanon radio correspondent in Washington 'Aziz Ra'd reports that Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim will arrive in Washington this weekend for consultations with his U.S. counterpart, George Shultz.

Minister Salim will be accompanied by some members of the Lebanese delegation to the Lebanese-Israeli-American negotiations including Dr Antoine Fattal and Dr Ibrahim Kharam.

TRIPARTITE MEETING BEGINS IN NETANYA 10 MAR

NC100726 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0712 GMT 10 Mar 83

[Report by Lebanese Information Ministry delegation in Netanya--live]

[Text] The Lebanese delegation led by Dr Antoine Fattal arrived at 0900 and immediately proceeded to the conferences hall on the 14th floor of the Dan Netanya building where a few moments ago the plenary meeting of the three delegations began. The meeting, as usual, will be brief and quick. It will be followed by a meeting of the subcommittees.

We will be with you to report on any new developments in the negotiations, especially after the plenary meeting.

No Plenary; Subcommittees Meet

NC100806 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0750 GMT 10 Mar 83

[Report by Lebanese Information Ministry delegation in Netanya--live]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen: A few moments ago Dr Dawud as-Sayigh, the official spokesman of the Lebanese delegation, informed us that the Lebanese, U.S., and Israeli delegations did not hold a plenary session as there was no need for it. The meetings of the three subcommittees began immediately at 1015.

These are the committee on the withdrawals and mutual relations, the committee on ending the state of war, and the military committee, which includes the committee on security arrangements. There will be no meetings this afternoon, and the Lebanese delegation is expected to return to Beirut at about noon today.

We will be with you to report on any new developments in the tripartite negotiations and in the meetings of the three committees.

Washington Talks Anticipated

NC100948 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 10 Mar 83

[Report by Voice of Lebanon correspondents in Netanya — live]

[Text] Today's meeting of the subcommittees of the Lebanese-Israeli-American negotiations will be a routine one. This is how the 22nd session of the tripartite negotiations in Netanya can be described. It appears that preparations are being made for a series of meetings which will start in Washington tomorrow. The U.S. Government has addressed invitations to the Lebanese and Israeli Governments. These invitations have been described as an attempt to accelerate the negotiations and move them in the direction of practical action which would wrest them from the swamp of stagnation in which they have sunk. In this connection it has been learned that the U.S. Government will submit, through its delegation to the Lebanese-Israeli negotiations, new ideas which would be the outcome of the intensive discussions which presidential envoy Philip Habib has held.

The subcommittees on the security arrangements, withdrawals, and mutual relations framework, and ending the state of war held their meetings immediately. The plenary session was not held.

Spokesman for the Lebanese delegation Dr Dawud as-Sayigh said that the subcommittees work will end at noon.

The heads of the delegations and their members are anticipating departure to Washington. U.S. delegation leader Morris Draper said that he will be leaving for Washington today. Israeli delegation leader Dr David Kimche said that he will be leaving for Washington accompanied by Generals Tamir and Eytan and Dr Eliahu Rubinstein. Questioned whether this means the transfer of the negotiations to Washington, Dr Kimche said: No. The negotiations are taking place in Khaldah, Qiryat Shemona, and Netanya.

We correct ourselves to say that the leader of the U.S. delegation mentioned that he will be leaving for Washington tomorrow and not as I said, and I apologize, that he will be leaving today.

Answering a question whether an invitation has been addressed to the Lebanese delegation, Draper said: Yes. However, he declined to answer a question whether these invitations mean the transfer of the negotiations to Washington.

Leader of the Lebanese delegation Dr Antoine Fattal said: An invitation has been addressed to the Lebanese Government to visit Washington. He was asked: Has the invitation been addressed to the Lebanese delegation? He answered: I do not know so far. [words indistinct] the question of the security arrangements. He added: I am optimistic.

Staff Brigadier General 'Abbas Hamdan was asked about the statement of [Israeli Foreign] Minister Shamir on the abandonment of the warning stations. He said: The statement which I read yesterday is not clear and nothing official has been done in its regard.

The Israeli information media today speak again about the concessions. They say that Israel has relinquished its demands for warning stations and observation points and that they accept the deployment of joint American-Israeli patrols in the south. Regarding the mutual relations, the media point out that Israel will be content with the establishment of a legation [mumaththiliyah] for it in Lebanon and that it does not stipulate that Lebanon should reciprocate in the first stage.

Dear listeners: We have been informed that the subcommittee on the mutual relations framework has turned into a tripartite meeting which is being held now among the heads of the delegations, Draper, Kimche, and Fattal because Dr Kimche has to leave for Washington.

This is the Voice of Lebanon team in Netanya. We now turn you back to our studios in Beirut.

Kimche Leaves Netanya Meetings

NC100917 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 10 Mar 83

[Report by Lebanese Information Ministry delegation in Netanya -- live]

[Text] The new development in the negotiations is that at 1040 head of the Israeli delegation David Kimche left the meeting of the committee on mutual relations after conferring with Dr Ibrahim Kharma and Morris Draper. He left for Tel Aviv to meet with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir there.

Israeli legal adviser Elyaqim replaced Kimche in chairing the committee on ending the state of war in the presence of Lebanese delegation head Dr Antoine Fattal and U.S. delegation head Morris Draper. The military committee is still meeting in the presence of Israeli Generals Tamir and Eytan who will tonight leave with Shamir and Kimche for Washington.

Kimche Denies Negotiations Transfer

NC101105 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1040 GMT 10 Mar 83

[Report by Lebanese Information Ministry delegation in Netanya -- live]

[Excerpt] The three committees -- on mutual relations and withdrawals, on ending the state of war, and the military committee which includes the security arrangements committee -- are still meeting here in the Dan Netanya Hotel.

Sources of the Lebanese delegation denied that Lebanon has been officially notified regarding the early warning stations question. The same sources say that the question of these stations is a playing card which appears when needed -- appearing at times and disappearing at others -- in the course of the discussion on the security area.

What is definite at the level of trade relations is that Lebanon is firmly determined in its stand not to commit itself to any trade question because this is very remote from the question of Israeli withdrawals from Lebanon. The withdrawal must be carried out first and before anything else. This is a Lebanese stand from which there will be no deviation.

Head of the Israeli delegation David Kimche has left the hotel for Tel Aviv to meet with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. Answering a question as to whether the reported transfer of negotiations to Washington is true, Kimche denied these reports and said that the negotiations are being held in Khaldah, Qiryat Shemona, and Netanya only.

PLO REFUGEE OFFICIAL SHOT IN BEIRUT 9 MAR

NC100553 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0415 GMT 10 Mar 83

[Text] Tawfiq as-Safadi, a senior official responsible for the Palestinian refugees in Lebanon and a PLO Central Committee [as heard] member, was shot in the military beach area in Beirut last night. It has been reported that one bullet hit him in the head and that he was immediately moved to the American University hospital.

AL-WAZZAN INTERVIEWED ON WITHDRAWALS ISSUE

NC091655 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English Feb 28-Mar 83 pp 28-31

[Text of interview granted by Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan to Mona As-Sa'id, MONDAY MORNING correspondent, "last week"; place not given]

[Text] [Question] Is there any truth to reports that substantive progress has been made in the talks with Israel and that there is a reasonable chance of partial withdrawals before Easter?

[Answer] The expression "substantive progress" may be an exaggeration. There is progress; there is a different mood; there is a new, dynamic American position; there are many new developments on the internal Lebanese level, on the internal Israeli level and on the general Arab level. All these things are present around the negotiating table and are having positive effects on the negotiations.

Regarding the withdrawals, our position is known: We reject partial withdrawals and demand total withdrawal, but we have no objection to agreeing on a timetable for this withdrawal.

In this context, it can be said that there is now a reasonable chance of achieving the beginning of Israeli withdrawals.

[Question] Lebanon has said it is ready to accept certain security arrangements with Israel to ensure an Israeli withdrawal. Exactly what kind of security arrangements is Lebanon prepared to agree to as a price for Israeli withdrawal?

[Answer] In its negotiations in Khaldah and Qiryat Shemona, Lebanon's earnest and serious objective is peace. It is therefore ready to work out solutions that do not damage its sovereignty, its security, and its higher interests, including its relations with its Arab milieu.

Altho[illegible] the statement you quoted was not made by any Lebanese official authorized to speak for Lebanon, we are prepared to work out any security arrangements which would rule out Israeli presence in the south, especially military presence and including the presence of any kind of early warning stations. In this regard, the matter of strengthening Lebanese security there (in south Lebanon) will receive our full attention, and the presence of international or multinational forces there is a matter that can be put on the negotiating table so that its conditions and circumstances can be agreed upon.

[Question] In the light of the recent statement by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz that Washington wants a quick withdrawal from Lebanon that takes into account the security of Israel, how do you evaluate America's present position on Lebanon? Do you still believe the U.S. is determined to get all foreign troops out of Lebanon before the American presidential campaigns get under way?

[Answer] All the signs indicate the presence of American movement characterized by new energy and vitality. We sense these American efforts through all the channels and all the contacts that are under way on all levels, and we also sense it at the negotiating table and we see its effects in the state of American-Israeli relations at the present stage.

The statement by the American secretary of state of which you have referred is supported by several other good statements, including a statement on the Lebanese situation by President Reagan himself.

However, although we are hopeful that the withdrawals will take place before the beginning of the presidential campaign in the United States, we have become very cautious about the deadlines given by various official quarters for a total withdrawal from Lebanon. It was once atated that the total withdrawal would be completed before the end of last year, but that, unfortunately, did not happen.

At any rate, we appreciate everyone's circumstances and we hope everyone will appreciate our circumstances and our urgent need to achieve the withdrawals at the earliest possible time.

[Question] What is your view on the reappointment of Ari'el Sharon to the Israeli Government committee in charge of security affairs and the negotiations with Lebanon?

[Answer] The views of the Israelis themselves on this matter -- the views of the Israeli Knesset, the Israeli press, and Israeli public opinion, as well as the positions of many of the world's Jews in the major capitals -- are perhaps more eloquent than any other view from any other quarter.

[Question] How does your government propose to deal with the many other difficult problems facing it at this stage -- starting with the issue of the many missing people and the failure of the authorities to refer prisoners or detainees to trial?

[Answer] The problem of the missing person is basically the result of the abnormal conditions that have prevailed in the country since the outbreak of the bloody events in it. It has been handled and followed up very seriously, and we have arrived at as many positive results in this regard as circumstances have permitted.

The root solution of this problem lies in bringing security conditions under maximum control. The more we can spread firm and decisive legal control to all Lebanese territory, the more possible it will be to put an end to these unfortunate conditions.

Regarding the question of referring prisoners to trial, this is being very strictly applied. There may have been certain infractions in this matter in the past, but these have been stopped once and for all.

[Questions] What do you intend to do about the Lebanese prisoners in the Israeli prison camp in Ansar?

[Answer] The matter is being dealt with through the appropriate channels, including the International Red Cross and the various international organizations. In addition to the Lebanese positions on this matter in the negotiations in Khaldah and Qiryat Shemona.

[Question] How does the government plan to deal with the country's stagnant economic conditions?

[Answer] The current stagnation is the result of the wait-and-see attitude that everyone has adopted towards the prevailing conditions in the country. It is also the results of the caution caused by the Israeli positions and the security eruptions we have witnessed, especially in the mountains and the north.

Capital is cautious -- in fact, it has been described as "cowardly." Everyone is waiting for security and political solutions, and I assure you that once these are achieved, the expression "economic stagnation" will become a thing of the past.

[Question] What about the flow of Israeli goods into the Lebanese market?

[Answer] This is one of the direct results of occupation. When someone occupies a territory and undermines its sovereignty, it goes without saying, unfortunately, that his goods will be poured into that territory. All efforts must therefore be concentrated on achieving the withdrawals as soon as possible and putting an end to the present occupation.

[Question] What does your government intend to do about the apparent negligence that led to the loss of many lives in the blizzard that hit Lebanon over the weekend?

[Answer] Let us remember that we are only now beginning to repair the state, and the hurdles and obstacles preventing us from completing that task are many, foremost among them being the occupation and the usurpation of the state's authority and resources by more than one quarter.

At any rate, this whole matter is now in the hands of the committee whose formation has been announced and which is headed by the president of the Supreme Judicial Council, Mr Yusuf Jubran.

[Question] How do you plan to go about reclaiming the fifth pier at the Beirut port, closing the illegal ports, and stopping the flow of goods into Lebanon from Israeli ports?

[Answer] Regarding the illegal ports and the fifth pier of the Beirut port, this matter is now being dealt with seriously and firmly, and I believe we will hear some good news about this in the near future.

As for the flow of goods from Israeli ports, I think my answer to your question about Israeli goods suffices.

[Question] How does your government intend to deal with the problem of the terrorism which the Palestinian civilians are being subjected to, especially in the Sidon area?

[Answer] Legitimacy is trying to spread its authority to all parts of Lebanon's territory. When that happens, there will be no more insecurity or terrorist action of any kind. What is happening in the Sidon area -- be it in this regard or in others -- is the responsibility of Israel.

[Question] What, in your opinion, is behind the continued absence from Lebanon of the Saudi ambassador to Beirut? Does his absence indicate cool relations between Lebanon and Saudi Arabia.

[Answer] There is no coolness in our relations with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. On the contrary, there are constant contacts between us and notable agreement on all current issues. The absence of the Saudi ambassador has nothing to do with this. And the explanation of this absence is related either to the ambassador's personal conditions or to the Kingdom's own considerations.

[Question] Has the idea of an Arab tour for President al-Jumayyil been dropped?

[Answer] Among President al-Jumayyil's traits is his ability to take quick decisions according to the nature of developments and his ability to move wherever movement is required. He will make an Arab tour if Lebanon's interests require it.

[Question] Former President Camille Sham'un has stated that security in south Lebanon will in the future be the responsibility of an Army unit in which Sa'd Haddad will participate. He described Haddad as a good citizen and said the reaction to the recent deployment of his forces in Sidon and An-Nabatiyah was exaggerated. Would you comment on this?

[Answer] The official position on Sa'd Haddad is known and was defined a long time ago. The general attitude towards him is linked to our positions towards Israel and his relations with it.

VOICE OF HOPE CONFIRMS DAMAGE TO TV BUILDING

NC091417 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 1400 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] The Middle East television building in free Lebanon near the good fence has been subjected to an explosion by criminal hands, causing only material damage. There were no casualties. Work has begun to repair it and it will be completed in the next few hours. A military expert is investigating the incident. We will give you further details later.

CLASHES RESUME IN TRIPOLI MORNING OF 10 MAR

NC100838 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 10 Mar 83

[Text] At the security level, contacts are underway between security and political leaders to contain the tension which developed this morning in Al-Qubbah locality in Tripoli, particularly in Al-Jadid street and Al-Qubbah square, following exchanges of light arms fire and RPGS.

A security report indicated that a clash broke out between two local organizations last night at midnight and then stopped. No casualties were reported. However, unofficial sources said the exchange of fire took place between armed men and members of the Syrian forces in the said locality.

The latest information received from Tripoli indicates that the clashes were renewed in a violent manner. The northern coordination committee will meet today under the chairmanship of former Prime Minister Rashid Karami to discuss the situation in Tripoli and the security incidents which take place at times in the capital of the north and the need to put an end to them.

LEBANESE FORCES COMMANDER ON DOMESTIC ISSUES

PM091013 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 4 Mar 83 p 4

[Lebanese Forces Commander Fadi Afram Interviewed by Faysal Qawwas, presumably in Beirut — date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] What is the position of the Lebanese Forces on the ground following the deployment of the Lebanese Army in all "greater Beirut"?

[Answer] First, one should understand the definition of the Lebanese Forces. They are the people, the inhabitants of the Lebanese areas. Regarding the presence of Lebanese Forces officers and men in Beirut, well they are sons of Beirut. Now that the Lebanese Army has entered and assumed security responsibilites in the greater Beirut area, the Lebanese Forces have abandoned their role. The military elements of the Lebanese Forces who are themselves from Beirut do not play any military or security role inside Beirut.

Regarding the presence of the Lebanese Forces outside Beirut, their position is still the same. They carry out security and defense duties in areas along the points vacated by the Israelis. It should be noted that these are the only areas under Lebanese sovereignty and are considered the Lebanese State's springboard for the liberation of the rest of Lebanese territory.

[Question] Will the Lebanese Forces members, to whom the national service applies, really perform national service? Also, what is your opinion of national service?

[Answer] Yes, when the state decides to enforce the national service law the Lebanese Forces members, like all other Lebanese citizens, will abide by the state laws, including the national service law, because a strong and sound state cannot be built unless it has its own elements of strength, of which military strength is the most important.

[Question] In your latest press conference you said that the Lebanese Forces had pulled all their heavy arms out of East Beirut. Does this mean that your members still possess light weapons?

[Answer] Our members in greater Beirut do not possess any heavy or light arms. The remaining individual arms are now in the previous sites of the Lebanese Forces barracks and our members cannot reach them. There is a command order to this effect. At any rate, the question of the arms in the possession of the Lebanese Forces depends on the final position of these forces. This position will not change before the withdrawal of all foreign forces from the homeland. Only then will these arms, as well as the officers and men of the Lebanese Forces, be at the complete disposal of the Lebanese State. Only then will the state have the final word regarding the future of these forces with their officers, men, arms, and institutions.

[Question] You said once that the Lebanese Forces were at a loss for a period of time following the death of their commander President Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil. Since then, have the Lebanese Forces been able to play the role he had set for them, after his assassination, and to this day?

[Answer] The leader taught us that we must tell the truth, however bitter it may be. What I said in that statement was no more than the absolute truth. We passed through a very difficult phase. The establishment had to fill the enormous vacuum our commander left behind. We undoubtedly had some difficult experiences but today, I can say that we have successfully overcome the difficult period.

The Lebanese Forces are now more cohesive than ever and they face political and military developments with more maturity, confidence, and wisdom. We are confident that the Lebanese Forces' massive support for the president of the republic will enable him to lift Lebanon out of its current crisis.

[Question] As the negotiations with the Israeli side continue, how do you envisage future relations with the Jewish state, and are you, for example, in favor of normalization or any other specific type of relations?

[Answer] Eight years of war have taught us to be realistic and to deal with reality without any complexes. The presence of Israeli forces on Lebanese territory is a tangible reality and so is the presence of Syrian and Palestinian forces. As Lebanese, we must deal with these two realities seriously in order to ensure that they are eliminated. Therefore the current negotiations with the Israeli side are one of the ways of tackling the Israeli reality in Lebanon. We hope that these negotiations will soon lead to an agreement ensuring the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanese territory and the restoration of Lebanese sovereignty over a part of Lebanese territory. We also hope that the direct and indirect negotiations with the Syrian and Palestinian sides will lead to the withdrawal of these forces and the restoration of Lebanese sovereignty over the rest of Lebanon. We, as Lebanese, must then establish sound and normal relations with all the states around us. All that we care about is that Lebanon should have secure, stable, and fixed borders.

[Question] You said when you received representatives of the Christian leagues union that the next few weeks would be difficult and crucial because they would determine the fate of Lebanon. On what did you base that emphatic statement?

[Answer] The reasons are no secret. In the coming weeks the U.S. initiative will either succeed or fail. We believe that the success of the U.S. role in Lebanon is essential for Lebanon and the region. If it fails in Lebanon the results will be negative for Lebanon and the region. U.S. credibility is at stake here, and so is Lebanon's hope for salvation. That is why I described the present phase as difficult and cruical.

[Question] What do you think of the movements of Maj Sa'd Haddad's forces in the south and in western Al-Biqa'?

[Answer] We have already expressed our opinion of Sa'd Haddad's movements in the south. We consider this to be a serious matter because it means that Israel is preparing the ground for an alternative solution if the negotiations fail. Israel would then withdraw to the 45 km line which Israel regards as its security belt and Sa'd Haddad would then have the major role in the area. That is why we believe that the negotiations must succeed if we are to avoid such a serious consequence. The Arab states should understand this fact.

[Question] Former President Camille Sham'un has said that the situation in the mountains calls for state intervention. Does this mean that the state has not yet intervened in the mountains?

[Answer] The situation in the mountains undoubtedly calls for Lebanese state intervention, and the final solution is deployment of the Lebanese Army and supremacy of the Lebanese authorities over all Lebanese territory. The state has not intervened on the ground because of the presence of the Israeli army in that area.

REPORTAGE ON SHAMIR ACTIVITIES BEFORE U.S. TRIP

Meets With Arens on Lebanon

TA091949 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Our political correspondent Yoram Ronen reports that this evening the foreign minister, the defense minister, and the delegation that will depart for Washington tomorrow held a meeting and reached agreement on the Israeli position regarding withdrawal from Lebanon, the observation posts, and the principles for normalization.

Our correspondent points our that Minister Shamir's visit to Washington will be the first official high-level contact between Israel and the United States in more than 6 months.

Further on Meeting

TA091834 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Shamir met this evening with Defense Minister Arens in Jerusalem in preparation for Shamir's trip to Washington later this week. They discussed Israel's position on security arrangements and normalization of relations with Lebanon. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says a recent statement by Jordan's King Husayn on a future Jordanian-Palestinian federation is not encouraging and does not lead the region closer to a peace agreement. The Jordanian ruler had told the nonaligned summit in New Delhi that Jordan and the PLO are close to establishing a federation.

Speaking in the Knesset, Foreign Minister Shamir said Israel must be careful of traps aimed at pushing us out of the area of our homeland. Shamir said Israel must differentiate between attempts to deprive it of national security assets under the guise of peace, and expressions of a real desire for peace and coexistence.

Rejects Husayn's Statements

TA091236 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir completely rejected King Husayn's remarks in New Delhi that progress has been achieved in the talks between Jordan and the PLO on a closely knit confederation. At the Knesset session, in response to a motion to the agenda by MAPAM's Imri Ron, Shamir said that Husayn's remarks do not contain even a single word about peace.

[Begin Shamir recording] That statement, I must say, is not very encouraging and does not bring us any closer to the goals of a settlement and peace. Israel aspires to peace and to negotiations whose main aim is achieving peace. Therefore, we must know -- on the basis of our past experience -- that we must beware of traps our enemies sometimes try to set at our feet, traps intended to distance us from the land of our homeland and not to acheive peace. [end recording]

Schiffer 'Speculates' on U.S. Trip

TA100551 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 10 Mar 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir is leaving for Washington today for meetings with his U.S. counterpart George Shultz in an attempt to coordinate positions on the shape of the arrangements in Lebanon. The prime minister will hold a ministerial consultation earlier this morning on the positions that will be presented in the talks. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer speculates on the views that will be raised in the talks in Washington. [Begin recording] Yitzhaq Shamir will arrive in Washington with opening positions and ideas which are different from those he presented to George Shultz in their previous meeting.

There has been a basic change in the Israeli conception. The lessons of the long months during which the IDF has been compelled to remain in Lebanon, and the inability of the various elements there to decide on the future of relations with Israel, led the decisionmakers to reformulate Israel's demands [derishot] in the arrangements with Lebanon.

No importance is now attached to the secret talks with the Phalange leaders and there is increased recognition that whatever is concluded with the United States is attainable, but nothing else.

The following are some of the ideas that will be raised in the talks: The security arrangements: Israel has in fact already given up its desire for a permanent presence in southern Lebanon. Various alternatives are now being examined. Reference is made to sensory [hisha] posts which will be manned also by IDF officers who will return to Israel every evening. Joint patrols, intelligence cooperation with the Lebanese Army, maritime and aerial patrols along Lebanon's coast and in its skies, and the strengthening of Major Sa'd Haddad's forces will be, as far as Israel is concerned, appropriate arrangements that will safeguard the northern border.

As for Maj Haddad, it seems Israel will no longer insist that Haddad head the area brigade that will be set up to maintain security in the region and will finally agree to a compromise: The appointment of Haddad as the region's governor.

UNIFIL's force: Israel will apprently agree to the stationing of two UNIFIL battalions to guard the refugee camps in Tyre and Sidon.

The normalization arrangements: As far as one can learn about the position Minister Shamir will present in his talks in Washington, it may be said that an effort will be made to satisy Israel's desire to open the border between the two countries for the passage of people and goods with the help of practical arrangements in the arena that will take effect immediately after the IDF's withdrawal from Lebanon. On this matter too, the Israeli position has become more flexible: No more open arrangements; it seems Israel will content itself with a series of letters accompanying the official arrangements that will be signed between Israel and Lebanon, or for U.S. guarantees for the unwritten arrangements.

Post factum, it transpires now that the proposal prepared by the Jerusalem Foreign Ministry a few months ago, whereby it should be aspired to regularize Israel's relations with Lebanon according to what was then called the Tehran formula, or alternatively, practical arrangements that are not publicized as it used to be during the shah's rule in Iran, has resurfaced and is currently being discussed. At the time, the proposal was received with criticism and condemnation on the part of government personages whereas now, it is hoped that this will at least be arrived at. [end recording]

Well then, in the course of the day the prime minister will call for a ministerial consultation to consolidate Israel's position for Shamir's talks in Washington. Also, when Shamir is in Washington, his Lebanese counterpart will also arrive there. There have already been rumors that the two may hold indirect negotiations in the U.S. capital. Political circles in Jerusalem stated yesterday that negotiations with the Lebanese foreign minister will be held only if the talks are held directly and privately. There is no expectation in Washington that the two foreign ministers will hold a direct discussion.

TALKS WITH LEBANESE IN NETANYA END EARLY

TA101114 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 10 Mar 83

[Text] Another round of deliberations ended between Israel and Lebanon in Netanya today.

The talks ended earlier than scheduled since four of the Israeli delegation members are going to accompany the foreign minister to Washington. Today's deliberations were conducted in the framework of the three committees: the military committee dealt with the issue of restrictions on the kinds of arms in the security zone, the committee for ending the state of belligerency formulated subtitles for the draft agreement on this issue, and the committee on bilateral relations had a meeting of committee leaders only.

'AUTHORITIES' ON ORGANIZING MILITIAS IN S. LEBANON

TA090925 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 9 Mar 83 p 1

[Text] Since January, Israeli authorities have been trying to organize local militias in southern Lebanon to preserve law and order in the area, sources in southern Lebanon have reported.

The sources said that what is involved is a local guard which would be under Israeli control and would act in coordination with the Free Lebanon army commanded by Major Sa'd Haddad.

The council head of a village in the area of Bint Jubayl said that since January, IDF officers have been asking the council heads from villages in the border zone and UNIFIL area to establish village militias to be fused into the national guard that Israel plans to operate in southern Lebanon.

The Israelis demand that every village choose about 12 young men who will be responsible for maintaining order in the village. The sources said that the Israeli officers stressed that unless this was done, it would be necessary to bring outside forces to maintain order in every village.

HA'ARETZ INTERVIEWS LEBANESE FORCES COMMANDER

TA091048 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 9 Mar 83 p 1

[Report on "Exclusive" interview with Fadi Afram, the commander of the Lebanese Forces by special envoy in Beirut 'Oded Zaray on 8 March; place not given]

[Text] In a special interview with HA'ARETZ last night, Fadi Afram, the commander of the Christian Lebanese Forces, which currently represent the strongest Lebanese military power, stated that "peace with Israel is a strategic goal that should be reached in view of the many points of contact between the two countries and peoples, particularly in the sphere of the principles of freedom, democracy, culture, and so on."

In response to a question, Afram pointed out that President al-Jumayyil rose from the ranks of the "Lebanese resistance' movement and that he had fought under Al-Jumayyil's command in battles against the Syrians and the PLO. However, in his current capacity as president, Al-Jumayyil is striving to formulate a united position of all Lebanese. In Afram's opinion, the president is striving to reach an agreement with Israel while trying to reduce negative reactions against Lebanon within the Arab world. The commander of the Lebanese Forces emphasized that at the same time, one must bear in mind that the Lebanee people are also ready to withstand Arab sanctions if it comes to this just to guarantee its own security and that of its children.

Afram vehemently rejected reports about any harm inflicted on his troops or any change in the basic goals set by their late commander, Bashir al-Jumayyil.

The Lebanese forces today continue to maintain the longest front in Lebanon opposite the Syrians and the PLO. The military force remains intact as do its economic and other institutions. Afram added that their decision to allow the Lebanese Army to enter East Beirut was a political one intended to strengthen the central government and help it impose its sovereignty on all parts of the country. East Beirut is no longer a battlefront and that is why we opted for moving the heavy weapons to other areas while leaving the camps and headquarters where they were, Afram noted.

VOICE OF HOPE TV STATION DAMAGED BY BOMB

TA091327 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] A boobytrapped car exploded in southern Lebanon near the Voice of Hope television station. There were no casualties. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the explosive charge was large, about 50 kg. Miraculously, nobody was wounded. The station's equipment was badly damaged and it is not known if it will be able to broadcast today.

Further Details

TA091716 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Major Sa'd Haddad has said that the explosion that occurred today near the Voice of Hope television station had been intended to harm the cooperation between Israel and the inhabitants of southern Lebanon. I have no doubt, he said, that the terrorists, with Syrian encouragement, will continue these attempts, but my forces are ready to cope with the problem.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that it has emerged from an investigation into the explosion that a terrorist squad went to the site of the explosion in two cars. The terrorists prepared the boobytrapped car and left in the other car. Earlier, it was reported that one was wounded by the explosion, but the television station's equipment was badly damaged. The station's operators have said that they will continue to broadcast as usual, despite the great damage.

CHIEF OF STAFF SAYS SYRIAN SAM-5'S IN LEBANON

TA101012 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 10 Mar 83

[Text] The chief of staff estimates that the chances for reaching an arrangement in Lebanon are good since Saudi Arabia, which finances the stay of the Syrian Army in Lebanon, wants an arrangement.

On the new missiles the Soviet Union stationed in Syria, some of which are in Lebanon [as heard], the chief of staff said that their deployment constitutes a change in the situation and is a problem for the United States also. However, in chief of staff Eytan's opinion, a solution will be found for this.

On the eight prisoners held in the PLO's hands, he said it is untrue that Israel is not making enough efforts to get them home. The negotiations are indirect and complicated and the different attitude of the terrorists toward their people in captivity delays the conclusion of the negotiations.

Our correspondent Yafa (Glik) notes that the chief of staff said this in a meeting with high school students in the ORT school in Kefar Sava.

RADIO REPORTS ABU JIHAD COMMENTS ON POW'S

TA092115 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Abu Jihad, one of the PLO leaders, has blamed Israel for being responsible for the suspension of negotiations over the release of prisoners.

He said that the Israeli authorities were refusing the PLO's demand to submit a full list of the names of Palestinian prisoners in Israeli prisons. He also claimed that the IDF had murdered, as he phrased it, 30 Palestinian fighters in the Ansar camp in southern Lebanon. He said that Israel was refusing to permit the Red Cross representatives to visit the prisoners in Ansar, while the PLO had allowed the representatives of the international organization to visit the Israeli prisoners being held by them.

CARTER VISITS BETHLEHEM, RIOTING REPORTED

TA091420 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Less than an hour ago Jimmy Carter arrived in Bethlehem. He was received at the municipality building entrance by Mayor Ilyas Frayj and his grandson. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that about 1,000 of the town's inhabitants gathered in the Church of the Nativity's court to receive Carter. After Carter's arrival, a riot broke out in front of the municipality building and the security forces were rushed to the spot.

Nabulus School Closed

TA091446 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1430 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Nabulus, 9 Mar (ITIM) -- The Qadri Tuqan High School in Nabulus was again closed by order of the governor of the town after students demonstrated along the road nearby and hurled stones at Israeli cars and the Yeshiva established near Joseph's tomb.

The security forces rushed to the scene and dispersed the rioters with teargas.

The ITIM correspondent in Judaea and Samaria reports that in Hebron and Halhul, youths erected stones and burning tires as roadblocks. In the local (Ibn Ar-Rashidiyah) school, a suspicious object was found. The security forces evacuated the students, blew up the object, and then found out that it was a dummy. Rioters in Ramallah also threw stones at Israeli cars.

Students from the Bethlehem College called off studies to protest Jimmy Carter's visit to the city.

Curfew on Ad-Duhayshah

TA092112 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] This evening, the security forces imposed a curfew on the Ad-Duhayshah refugee camp near Bethlehem following actions taken against Israeli traffic on the Jerusalem-Hebron highway, in the course of which about 10 Israeli cars were damaged.

However, our correspondent Arye Gus reports that this evening the security forces withdrew from the Bethlehem University and permitted the students and staff to leave. The encirclement was imposed following the students' demonstrations inside the university walls against former U.S. President Jimmy Carter's visit. During the demonstrations, the police arrested several foreign correspondents who had violated a military government order declaring the university area a closed zone. Indictments may be submitted against these correspondents.

West Bank Stone Throwing

TA091456 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1450 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Three female soldiers and two civilians were slightly wounded today by stone-throwing in Hebron.

Breaches of the peace that included mainly setting fire to tires, setting up roadblocks, and stone-throwing were noted in Judaea and Samaria. Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and Defense Minister Moshe Arens visited Hebron today. Jimmy Carter met with President Yitzhaq Navon today. At that meeting, he said that Israel should show generosity in the autonomy negotiations.

CARTER MEETS VILLAGE LEAGUE LEADER IN QIRYAT GAT

TA100911 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 10 Mar 83

[Text] Jimmy Carter this morning conferred with Jamil al-'Amlah, the head of the Hebron area village league. Voice of Israel Arabic correspondent, Rif'at Kaddur, reports that the meeting took place in the municipal building in Qiryat Gar. Al-'Amlah stressed that the solution to the Palestinian problem can be found only following direct negotiations between Israel and a joint delegation of Jordan and the Palestinian residents in the territories.

SUPREME COURT JUSTICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

TA101057 Tel Aviv IDF Radio 1052 GMT 10 Mar 83

[Text] Supreme Court Justice Menahem Alon is the coalition's candidate for the state presidency. Our correspondent Sha'ul Stav reports that a decision on this was made at the prime minister's office a short while ago through a consultation of the coalition's leaders.

The prime minister's adviser on communications and foreign press, Uri Porat, reported that the candidacy of Justice Elon is with the approval of the prime minister.

ISRAEL 'SHARPLY PROTESTS' EEC ECONOMIC SANCTIONS

TA091114 Jerusalem Domestic Services in Hebrew 1100 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Israel has sharply protested to the German and French ambassadors in Israel since the Peace for Galilee Operation. Both ambassadors were summoned to the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem. Our correspondent ' Oded Ben-'Ami reports that a protest was conveyed to the French ambassador about France's discussions with Morocco in anticipation of the possibility that Spain may join the EEC without including Israel in the negotiations.

ISRAEL, SOUTH AFRICA SIGN ECONOMIC AGREEMENT

TA040548 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 4 Mar 83

[Text] The finance ministers of Israel and South Africa signed an economic agreement last night. South African television reported that, among other things, it was agreed to lift some restrictions on the transfer of money from both countries, open commercial credit lines, and cooperate in agricultural and technological research. It was similarly decided that close ties will be established between Israel and Ciskei, one of the puppet states [medinot buba] set up in South Africa for the blacks. The president of Ciskei, chief Lennox Sebe, reported this upon returning from a visit to Israel. The Johannesburg newspapers reported that Israel will supply Ciskei with arms.

ALGERIA

BORDER DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH TUNISIA

LD091119 Algiers APS in English 1041 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Algiers, 9/3/83 (APS) -- At the end of the visit in Algeria of the Tunisian minister of economy and in the frame of efforts aimed at reinforcing economic and financial cooperation between Algeria and Tunisia, a work meeting gathered two delegations of the Tunisian Ministry of Finances and Planning and the Algerian Ministry of Finances.

The two delegations examined a basic accord draft on industrial cooperation, a project of taxation and customs convention, and modalities to settle financial operations between the two countries. The question related to circulation between the two countries was also evoked.

Moreover, these same Algerian-Tunisian talks were sanctioned by the signature of an official report providing for the economic, social, and cultural development in the Algerian-Tunisian border regions. The official report was signed by the general secretaries of both the Algerian and Tunisian Home Ministries. The document further underlines both governments will to strive efforts to reinforce bilateral cooperation, in the interest of the two brother peoples.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI RECEIVES KHOMEYNI REPLY

LD092304 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] The brother commander of the revolution has received a message of thanks and appreciation from the imam, Ayatollah Khomeyni, in reply to the message the brother commander sent on the occasion of the anniversary of the victory of the Iranian Islamic Revolution. In his message, Ayatollah Khomeyni affirmed that the Iranian Islamic Revolution, which was based on the masses, has been the target of enemies who hatch all sorts of plots against it and who provide all the necessary help and facilities needed for harming it. He said that Saddam's imposed war is the best proof of this. Ayatollah Khomeyni added that, by supplying constant material and military aid to the collapsing Iraqi regime, these enemies have been preventing the ending of the war and preventing the rescuing of the Iraqi people from the evils of this bloody regime.

EGYPT'S CALL FOR LIBYAN SUSPENSION RIDICULED

LD091543 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] The Egyptian regime has failed to find an excuse for continuing its membership in the Nonaligned Movement and has had to resort to hallucinations to escape the firm stand being taken for dismissing it from the movement. The Egyptian Government's MENA said that the Egyptian regime has asked the seventh summit conference of the nonaligned countries in New Delhi to consider suspending Libya's membership in the movement. This request by the Egyptian regime was met with continuous laughter in the conference hall as it reflects the conviction of the nonaligned countries that the Egyptian regime is an aligned regime and that this regime, with its connections with the racist Zionist entity, and its alliance with the U.S. Administration, has lost its presence in this movement which was originally established on the basis of rejecting alliances and spreading prosperity and peace.

Mubarak's regime, as numerous delegations participating in the conference stated, is aligned to the United States. Egypt, because of its clear alignment to the United States, is no longer a nonaligned country.

While the Egyptian request was met with ridicule because it was -- from the nonaligned countries' point of view -- an expression of the Egyptian regime's misunderstanding of the principles and aims of the movement, there is no doubt that Libya is considered a unique example in nonalignment as it is not bound by any subordinate relation with any major state as is the case with the Egyptian regime. Libya is an independent state, and it is considered to be an example for the independent states in the world.

Political observers in the Indian capital think that the Egyptian regime has entered a new vortex of political hallucinations and that it does not understand the first thing about political concepts. It cannot distinguish between alignment and nonalignment.

MOROCCO

LIBYAN FRONT SENDS MEMORANDUM TO NEW DELHI SUMMIT

LD091918 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1530 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] London, 9 Mar (MAP) -- Muhammad Yusuf al-Maqrif has sent a memorandum to the seventh nonaligned summit in New Delhi proposing that the conference discuss the cause of the Libyan people who, for more than 13 years, have faced the frivolous and terrorist practices of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, both at home and abroad. These criminal practices are known and clear to the whole world, especially their tragic effects on the Libyan people and the rest of the Third World peoples in particular and international relations in general.

He announced that the National Front for the Salvation of Libya asks the nonaligned group to adopt the following measures:

Understand the bitter reality which the Libyan people suffer as a result of the criminal practices of Al-Qadhdhafi, which constitute a violation of the most basic human rights, a matter which openly contradicts the first principle of the Nonaligned Movement, the principle calling for respect of human rights.

Take suitable principled attitudes of support for the struggle of the Libyan people, including adoption of the cause of human rights for this people before the concerned international organizations.

Condemn Al-Qadhdhafi's criminal practices and policy both at home and abroad which constitute a flagrant violation of the principles of nonalignment and other international treaties.

Condemn Al-Qadhdhafi in particular for his spreading the idea of Libya joining the Warsaw Treaty.

End all forms of security cooperation with Al-Qadhdhafi's regime, cooperation which is considered by the front to be directed against the will and freedom of the Libyan people.

Confront Al-Qadhdhafi's international terrorism, including his terrorist groups, which he sends to many countries and show solidarity with countries which fall victim to such practices.

SUDAN

MENA REPORTS ARRESTS IN FOILED COUP PLOT

NC092111 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1540 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Khartoum, 9 Mar (MENA) -- The Sudanese authorities have arrested 56 persons on charges of plotting against the security of Sudan and of participating in a plot to carry out sabotage operations which was to have taken place in Sudan on 18 February, it was officially announced here today.

An official statement in this respect said that the defendants made grave confessions in which they said that they infiltrated into Sudan from May of last year until March of this year.

The statement said that the Sudanese security authorities were aware of the defendants' movements and that the defendants infiltrated into Sudan through the western and eastern borders.

The statement noted that the defendants spread out in Khartoum, Omdurman, Kudukli and Kassla, that they received military and ideological training in seven Libyan camps, and that they operated in Sudan within an organization which they called "the revolutionary committees."

The statement said that the defendants were asked to cause sabotage inside Sudan and to mobilize Sudanese elements to try to arrange for their travel to Tripoli for training preparatory to what they called the popular revolution.

The statement pointed out that they used to send reports about their activities to Libya, and that their recruitment took place in Syria and Libya and in some European and African capitals.

The statement also said that the defendants confessed that Libyan Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has established an operations center, with Sudanese agents and mercenaries, as well as three training bases.

The Sudanese authorities last month announced the discovery of sabotage attempts by Libya against Sudan under the cover of the massing of Libyan forces on the Sudanese border at Kafrah area.

The trial of these defendants is scheduled to take place before a special court, the composition of which will be announced soon.

SUNA Quoted on Arrests

NC092119 Paris AFP in English 1722 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Khartoum, March 9 (AFP) -- Sudanese security forces have arrested 56 people who were allegedly involved in an allegedly Libyan-backed plot to overthrow the government last month which was called off following U.S. military manoeuvres in the region.

The SUDAN NEWS AGENCY SUNA said today the self-confessed conspirators involved in the coup attempt planned for February 18 had infiltrated Sudan in batches beginning last May and continuing until this month, and spread into the capital and other cities throughout the country.

SUNA said the detainees, whose nationalities were not given, were planning to carry out subversive acts and forment disturbance in Sudan.

The news agency said they had been indoctrinated by Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's "Third World theory" and had received military training in Libya and Syria on the use of arms and explosives.

The agency said the detainees were recruited to join an underground organisation of Sudanese revolutionary committees which SUNA said was planning to cause disturbances, popular demonstrations, and riots to pave the way for a people's revolution by way of "explosions and assassination."

SECURITY AUTHORITIES SEIZE LIBYAN CARGO

JN091646 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1419 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Khartoum, 9 Mar (SUNA) -- Security organs at Khartoum airport have seized a Libyan cargo sent to the Libyan people's office in Khartoum from the Libyan publishing house "Uqbah ibn Nafi'.

The cargo arrived in Khartoum on 3 February 1983. It contains propaganda materials for indoctrinating the people during the 18 February Libyan sabotage operation in Sudan. These materials included flags, photographs, posters, tapes, printed directives, and other miscellaneous items.

The Libyan people's office in Khartoum was closed in 1980 due to its aggressive activities against Sudan.

NUMAYRI ADDRESSES SSU EXECUTIVE BUREAU

JN091319 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1015 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Khartoum 9 Mar, (SUNA) -- The leader president Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, president of the SSU, has said that the SSU Fourth National Congress has been a national epic which affirmed our people's ability to overcome the homeland's problems and achieve national unity and willpower.

This came in the first meeting of the SSU central leadership's Executive Bureau which was held here last night under his excellency.

President Numayri congratulated the Executive Bureau members for the confidence placed in them by the central leadership to lead the coming phase, and expressed the hope that their action would be marked by vitality and creativeness.

His excellency pointed out the great responsibilities awaiting the Executive Bureau in translating the comprehensive political program into working plans. He called on the political organization to present work plans and called on its members to assume, through the people's will, positions that would influence and guide the state institutions.

President Numayri presented a working paper to the Executive Bureau which dealt with the duties and tasks of the bureau in the coming phase. He stressed the need to maintain contact with the masses, repudiate bureaucracy, concentrate on the referendum campaign, and present the political program creatively in order to achieve political significance.

This was followed by a discussion which dealt with various aspects of the political paper and program.

MOZAMBIQUE, ZIMBABWE SIGN COOPERATION AGREEMENTS

MB091246 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Mozambique and Zimbabwe this morning signed a number of agreements on cooperation in several areas. The agreement [as heard] was signed in Maputo at the first session of the joint cooperation commission which started on Monday. The areas covered in the agreements are agriculture, energy, transport and communications, industry and energy, commercial and bank relations, mining, information, and culture. The agreement was signed by the Mozambican ports and land transport minister, Alcantara Santos, and Zimbabwe's external trade minister, Richard Hove.

Speaking after the signing ceremony, Mr Santos expressed satisfaction, adding that this was because an important step has been made in intergrating the economies of the two countries.

ANGOLA

CSSR DEFENSE MINISTR'S TOAST AT DINNER 6 MAR

EA091540 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 7 Mar 83

[CSSR Defense Minister General Martin Dzur's toast at dinner in his honor at Luanda's Costa do Sol Hotel on 6 March -- recorded]

[Text] We accepted your invitation with joy and sincerely wish that our visit will contribute to the deepening of mutual relations between Czechoslovakia and Angola within the spirit of the friendship and cooperation agreement between our countires.

I have the pleasant duty of conveying to the generous people of Angola and the militants of the People's Armed Forces cordial greetings from Comrade Gustav Husak, general secretary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee and president of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic; and from the government, the republic, and our people's army command. We are pleased that the relations of friendship and cooperation between our countries are developing accordingly based on fraternal cooperation between the MPLA and the Czechosloak Communist Party.

The people of Czechoslovakia have always expressed solidarity, support, and deep sympathy for the struggle of the Angolan people for national liberty, which culminated in the achievement of independence and the proclamation of the People's Relublic of Angola 7 years ago.

The past period was one of hard work by the Angolan people, who -- under the leadership of the MPLA-Labor Party -- have achieved much in the political, economic, and social sectors. They have successfully defended their revolutionary gains against attacks by imperialist, racist, and reactionary forces.

On international policy, we note with pleasure that both our countries have identical or very close opinions on the problems facing our present world. We appreciate the MPLA-Labor Party and the People's Republic of Angola Government's firm anti-imperialist and anticolonialist foreign policy and firm decision to continue alongside the countries of the socialist community and world progressive forces in the struggle for peace and socialism.

We are aware of the difficult situation presently facing your country. The heroic Angolan people must continue daily to wage the struggle for the consolidation of their independence and against colonialist vestiges and belligerent attacks by the racist South African regime.

In Czechoslovakia, we greatly appreciate Angola's help in the just struggle of the Namibian people under the leadership of their vanguard organization, SWAPO, for the liberation of their fatherland and the achievement of their sovereign rights.

We strongly condemn the policy of racism and apartheid carried out by the dominant minority in South Africa against the majority African inhabitants. During the session in Prague of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact, the socialist countries once again reaffirmed their decision to reject colonial vestiges, racism, and the exploitation of other peoples. The political statement of this important session shows humanity the way to achieve a life of freedom and peace for all peoples.

We are convinced that nobody will be able to turn back historical development or the decision by the vanguard countries of Africa and other continents to follow the path of progressive development and deepening cooperation with the socialist countries.

Within the spirit of the 16th Congress of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, our country will continue to develop its internationalist ties and friendship with the progressive forces of independent and free countries and contribute to their just anti-imperialist struggle and economic and social development.

Esteemed comrades, since its liberation from the German fascist yoke by the Soviet Army in 1945, Czechoslovakia has undergone enormous development, which has changed the face of our country today from the grassroots up. Today, our republic is an advanced socialist country. We have found successful solutions to the important tasks of our economic and social development as laid down by the 16th Congress of the Czechoslovak Communist Party. We give priority attention to the stable development of our economy and the quality and efficiency of production as the basic conditions for ensuring a good standard of living and social security for the workers.

On the complicated international situation, as bellicose imperialist circles reinforce their plans to destroy peaceful coexistence and throw people into military confrontation, we consider it our primary duty, together with the USSR, to actively contribute toward the prevention of nuclear war, toward disarmament and the consolidation of trust and understanding among nations.

Increased imperialist belligerence by the United States forces us to give due attention to the problems of security and defense in our country and the whole socialist community. Thanks to the continuous care by the Czechoslovak Communist Party and Government, the Czechoslovak People's Army has everything it needs to repulse any aggressor. Together with the Soviet Army and other armies of the Warsaw Pact, our army is prepared to defend socialism's achievements and the peaceful life of our peoples.

We fully understand the efforts by your party leadership to reinforce the country's defense capability and the battle-readiness of the People's Armed Forces, which must unceasingly ensure the security of the Angolan people and counter aggressive attacks by the racist South Africans. We greatly appreciate their heroism and bravery and the results they obtain in the defense of the country. This difficult struggle will continue and, without a doubt, the victory of the Angolan people, led by their party and government, is certain.

We cordially thank the comrades and esteemed comrade minister for the warm welcome accorded our delegation and the attention we have received ever since our arrival in your country. We hope that our visit will contribute toward firmer friendship and cooperation between our countries, between the People's Army of Czechoslovakia and the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, FAPLA.

To the continued victories of the Popular Liberation Movement of Angola, the Workers' Party, and the Czechoslovak Communist Party and their central committees and to the health of our party and state leaders, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Gustav Husak; to the strengthening of friendship of the peoples of Czechoslovakia and of the People's Republic of Angola and their armed forces; to the successes of the valiant Angolan people; to new victories for the forces of socialism, peace, and progress; to the independence and liberty of peoples; to the health of Comrade Minister; and to the health of all esteemed comrades and friends.

SWAPO COMMUNIQUE REPORTS RSA CASUALTIES

AB091704 Luanda ANGOP in French 1626 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Luanda, 9 Mar (ANGOP) -- The South African base of Tsandi, located about 70 kms northeast of Oshakati in the north of Namibia, was heavily shelled on 2 February with artillery and mortar fire by the fighters of the People's Liberation Army of Namibia [PLAN] SWAPO's armed wing, a communique issued by that nationalist organization announced on Wednesday in Luanda.

In the same communique, SWAPO confirmed the information given last Monday in Windhoek by South African Armed Forces headquarters, according to which 12 South African soldiers were killed last Saturday during a violent fight between the racist forces and SWAPO fighters in the "Vergenoeg" farms farms region (near Tsumbe) about 200 kms south of Namibia's northern border.

SWAPO, according to the communique, explains that the 10 soldiers killed were members of the famous "Koevoet," a unit of the special forces whose names were not disclosed by the racists for security reasons. Meanwhile, the Pretoria headquarters has identified the two other soldiers as Christo Francois Bezuidennout (21, from Johannesburg) and Jameson Bosch (20, from Caltenwood, South Africa).

In the last few weeks, racist settlers have been leaving their farms in the districts of Outjo, Tsumbe, Grootfontein, and Otavi. This confirms the report that the PLAN fighters have "broken the defense lines of the enemies toward the above mentioned urban districts in the north," the communique pointed out.

LESOTHO

GOVERNMENT ASKS RSA TO PREVENT 'IMMINENT' ATTACK

MB100610 Maseru Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 10 Mar 83

[Text] The Lesotho Government has requested South Africa to prevent an attack that has been planned against Lesotho in South Africa. In an urgent telex to Pretoria, the Lesotho Government informed South Africa that it had reliable information that an imminent attack of Lesotho was being organized in South Africa. The message to Pretoria said there were further indications that the South African Defense Force and other groups are involved in this plot. Lesotho said if this were true, it would consider that an unfriendly act, and it therefore requested the Government of the Republic of South Africa to take all measures to prevent this attack, which would be both unfriendly and unneighborly.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Lesotho said all heads of diplomatic missions and international organizations in Lesotho were summoned to the headquarters of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where they were briefed about this development by the acting minister of foreign affairs, the Honorable K.T.J. Rakhetla.

MALAWI

PRESIDENT OPENS BUDGET SESSION OF PARLIAMENT

MB090950 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Text] His excellency the life president, Mgwazi Dr Kamuzu Banda, has said that from what he has seen so far in the gardens of the people, this country should have a balanced primary budget. Opening the budget session of Parliament in Zomba today, the life president explained that what the minister of finance was presenting in Parliament was a secondary budget, but as far as he was concerned the primary budget was what he saw in the gardens of the people.

His excellency said, in this respect, from what he saw during his recent crop inspection tour of some districts of the central region, all was well. The life president then reitereated his policy of ensuring that whatever his people might not have, at least they could have three basic things: namely, enough food, good clothes, and decent housing. He went on to say that because of the people's hard work in the fields and the introduction of maize in some districts of the country, his people have now enough food and plenty of surplus crops to sell. As a result, the life president pointed out, it was no longer necessary for his people to go to other countries in search of employment.

The life president then expressed his happiness to note that in addition to intensifying agricultural activities in the country, he had also instilled the spirit and respect for hard work among the people. This has culminated into the economic transformation of the country for the better, the life president concluded.

Earlier in his speech, his excellency the life president gave the House an overview of the economic situation of the world as it is today. [Sentence indistinct]

NAMIBIA

ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL ADDRESSES NEWS CONFERENCE

MB091916 Windhoek Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1700 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] The administrator general, Dr Willie van Niekerk, says important decisions on the political and constitutional future of South-West Africa will have to be made soon. He reiterated that the present situation would not continue indefinitely.

Dr van Niekerk said at a news conference in Windhoek this afternoon that if it appeared that the UN resolution could not be implemented soon, other arrangements would have to be made. Factors which would play an important role in the issue would be the state of the international negotiating process, the internal security situation, the outcome of the discussions with (?local) political parties, and South Africa's undertaking concerning South-West Africa. The possible excision of any part of South-West Africa as an independent territory is not being considered, as this would not be acceptable to the international community.

Dr van Niekerk announced that a delegation from the South African Department of Foreign Affairs would visit America later this month for further discussions on a settlement in South-West Africa. Dr van Niekerk himself will be holding consultations in Cape Town with the South African prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha on Friday. A budget for South-West Africa and economic development in the territory will also be discussed.

The administrator-general announced that South Africa would not attend the planned conference on South-West Africa which will be held in Paris, France, on 25 April.

He also revealed that the present terrorist infiltration in the north of South-West Africa was responsible for the lowering of the status of South Africa's delegation to the discussions with Angola in Cape Verde on the 23d of last month. A date for a further meeting has not been decided yet, and an answer is being awaited from the Angolan Government.

The South African Government wishes to express its concern at (?that meeting) over SWAPO activities and the buildup of Cuban and Angolan forces in Angola; but, Dr van Niekerk said, the security forces are in full control of the security situation, and at most 20 terrorists have been able to penetrate the farming areas south of Ovambo and Kavango. The task had been given to 14 groups of terrorists, numbering between 40 and 50, but as a result of security force action only 8 of these groups succeeded in crossing the border of South-West Africa. A total of 186 terrorists have already been shot dead, while some of their companions have retreated northward.

Dr van Niekerk said the infiltrators are all members of a special unit trained by West Germans, Cubans, and Russians at Lubango in southern Angola.

The administrator-general said that 66 of the 78 people invited to serve on the five committees which will assist him in governing the territory have accepted. These committees will concern themselves with community services, finances and economy, local government, infrastructure, and agriculture, and will replace the Development Advisory Council of the Council of Ministers, which resigned. But these committees will not be replacing democratic government at the primary government level. They will begin their tasks as soon as they reach full complement. One-third of each committee will be officials, while two-thirds will be members of the private sector, and they will be able to formulate instructions on their own.

Consultations with political parties and liaison with representatives is taking place, and several bottlenecks have already been referred to the central government for action.

The chief director in the office of the administrator-general, Advocate (John Wyle), said an election among the Basters will have to be held before June. This election had been postponed in the light of a possible general election under international supervision. Coordination between the central government and the administrations for Vambos, Kavangos, Damaras, and Caprivians will be undertaken by liaison officers.

Regarding economic development, Dr van Niekerk said [words indistinct] had been ordered to (?speed up) the settlement and resettlment tempo of traditional farmers in the northern areas. [Words indistinct] to be established which would provide employment for the rest of the population. He summarized present government activities and said special attention is being given to health services throughout the territory.

SECURITY FORCES CLOSING IN ON SWAPO INSURGENTS

MB101028 Johannesburg THE STAR in English 9 Mar 83 p 1

[By Peter Honey, THE STAR'S Africa News Service]

[Text] Tsumeb -- A security force net was closing today on a group of desperate SWAPO insurgents who have been hounded to within 40 km of the small mining town of Tsumeb in Namibia's white farming area.

Since the trail-hardened SWAPO insurgents gunned down two young South African soldiers guarding a farmstead on Sunday, they have been chased to the limits of endurance by crack elements of the police "Koevoet" unit and the SWA task force unit, on foot and in armoured vehicles, and backed by aircraft.

The SWAPO men, considered to be some of the most highly trained and wiliest to have penetrated the area from their bases in Angola, have used every trick to stay ahead of their pursuers as the hunt goes on at top speed through the rough terrain of rocks and dense thornbush. There are thought to be seven men in the hunted group.

Security force deaths have risen from eight to 14 since SWAPO slipped into the Tsumeb area on Sunday. Yesterday the Defence Force announced the death -- "in the operational area" -- of Lance-Corporal Karolus Jonker. The deaths of the two soldiers killed at Vergenoeg Farm -- a hunting ranch east of the Etosha game park -- and two police trackers, had been announced earlier. A black policeman also died in an accident during follow-up operations on Monday. The two bushmen trackers were fatally wounded by an antipersonnel mine triggered by a tripwire when they were only minutes behind the fleeing SWAPO men late on Monday. While the mine took only seconds for the insurgents to set up, it succeeded in delaying their pursuers.

The SWA Territory Force said on Monday that about 20 SWAPO had penetrated the white farming area. It was not known today whether the rest were still in the district, or whether they had headed back north into Ovambo or Kavango. The security forces are confident of hunting down the fleeing men, possibly today. The chase came so close at one stage yesterday that the insurgents removed their boots and ran barefoot to get more speed over the rocky ground.

The Ovambo region appeared fairly quiet yesterday after experiencing some of the fiercest fighting in the 16-year-old bush war. There are signs that this infiltration differs in several respects from thrusts in previous years. It is evident that the infiltration is partly aimed at recruitment for SWAPO's depleted military ranks in Angola. The security forces have reported nearly 200 young Ovambo civlians abducted into Angola since mid-February. It is also the first year that so many of the heavy-calibre Draganov sniper rifles have been brought in by insurgents. Many of the SWAPO elite fighters appear to be lightly armed to enable them to move faster.

SWAPO CLAIMS MILITARY SUCCESS IN NORTH

AB091555 Paris AFP in English 1542 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Luanda, March 9 (AFP) -- Guerrillas of the armed wing of the South West Africa People's Organization have broken through South African defence positions in the urban zones of northern Namibia, according to a SWAPO communique published in the Angolan capital today by the Namibian nationalist movement. The communique said that in recent weeks "racist colonialists" had departed from the white farms in the northern Namibian areas of Outjo, Tsumed, and Grootfontein.

On February 24 SWAPO's armed wing shelled a South African military base in Tsandi, near the Angolan border, inflicting heavy losses, the statement said. SWAPO said that last Saturday during fierce fighting in the Tsumed region, 200 kms (130 miles) south of the Angolan border, 10 South African soldiers from the Koevoet special unit and two regular South African soldiers -- Cristo Francois Bezuidennout and Jameson Bosch -- were killed. (South African military headquarters in Pretoria have announced the deaths of three regular army soldiers since Monday, the latest casualty being announced today.

SWAZILAND

SUPREME COUNCIL MEMBERS CALLED BEFORE MAGISTRATE

MB081030 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 8 Mar 83 p 1

[By TIMES reporter]

[Text] Two members of the Supreme Council of State appeared in court yesterday on a charge of making seditious statements. Former Cabinet Minister Prince Mfanasibili and his Liqoqo leader Chief Mfanawekhosi Maseko were remanded in custody. They are being held in the Sidwashini Prison as accused awaiting trial. They are alleged to have uttered seditious statements against members of the Royal Swaziland Police Force. The statements are alleged to have been made in the royal residence at Lobamba on February 3.

The contents of the alleged statements were not read in court. When they were called to the dock before Magistrate Reginald Dladla for remand, Prince Mfanasibili asked to be released on bail pending trial. "I have not heard what I have been charged with so as to prepare a defence for myself and hire an attorney," Prince Mfanasibili said. The magistrate read him the charge, for his information, not officially charging them. Magistrate Dladla told him that their case was not in his jurisdiction as it would be tried in the high court.

Supporting his own bail application, Chief Maseko said he had a sugar disease and was on a special diet. He said he had to get his meals at certain regular hours. He further stated that he had an old injury from a car accident and as such could not bear another night sleeping on a prison floor.

The magistrate asked Superintendent Albert Zungu, who is looking after them, to provide special bedding to him and arrange for the chief's special meals. He advised both accused to make an application to the registrar of the high court, requesting him to make arrangements for them to appear before the judge on a bail application. The case was postponed until March 21 when they will appear on another remand hearing until they are committed for trial in the high court. They both appeared calm during yesterday's proceedings.

Prince Mfanasibili is chairman of the Civil Service Board and chairman of the Swaziland National Football Association. Prince Mfanasibili was minister of local administration (now home affairs) and later minister of commerce and cooperatives, which has since been disbanded. He is actively involved in business. Chief Maseko was police superintendent until he was appointed deputy head of the Tinkhundla. Prince Mfanasibili was arrested at his home by security police at the weekend. An eyewitness said he saw him escorted by plainclothes police and handcuffed. Chief Maseko was picked up on Sunday night.

Bail Refused

MB091957 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Two members of the Liqoqo, the Supreme Council of State, were today refused bail on charges of issuing seditious statements against members of the Royal Swaziland Police Force. The members, Prince Mfanasibili and Chief Mfanawenkhosi Maseko, first appeared before Mbabane Senior Magistrate Reginald Dladla on Monday for passing seditious statements against the members of the Royal Swaziland Police Force, on remand, and made their bail applications, which were heard yesterday. During the session, the magistrate was told that his son had been struck by lightning, and the court had to adjourn.

In passing his judgement on bail this afternoon, the magistrate said he had exercised his (discretion) whether or not to grant bail. He said the guiding principle is to uphold the interest of justice. He said in this case the police officer who opposed the application, though not the investigating officer, is the deputy commissioner of police, and the director of public prosecutions, himself a professional person, whose opinion is held in great esteem in superior courts -- they pointed out that such a matter seriously affects the security of the state, and moreover, it is a sensitive and serious matter. He said the director of public prosecutions did not merely oppose the application of affidavit but led oral evidence while the applicants did not give evidence. The director of public prosecutions further argued that the release of the applicants would interfere with the Crown's case and witnesses, some of whom are civil servants in the deputy prime minister's office, the Swaziland Broadcasting Service, the Swaziland Television Broadcasting Corporation, the Cabinet and some members of the Liqoqo.

The magistrate added that by their failure to give verbal evidence, no special facts would have tilted the balance of their favor. The two were therefore led back to a prison van to Sidvwashini Prison.

The accused are represented by Mr David Matse and Sam Earnshaw, and representing the state is Mr Absolom Twala.

ZIMBABWE

NKOMO FLEES TO BOTSWANA; ZAPU SPLIT

MB100750 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 10 Mar 83

[Text] The ZAPU leader, Joshua Nkomo, has fled the country and is now in Botswana. The Botswana authorities have since confirmed the arrival of Mr Joshua Nkomo in Gaborone on Tuesday, saying that he is in that country temporarily. The Gaborone authorities say the ZAPU leader, while in Botswana, will explore possible ways of resolving what they termed the situation in this country. Mr Joshua Nkomo left the country illegally, disguising himself as a fat old woman, and was driven through the bush across the border in a Land Rover, avoiding official checkpoints.

The escape of Mr Joshua Nkomo come in the wake of successful military operations against ZAPU bandits in the Matabeleland area. Commenting on the success of the security operation, the minister of state in the prime minister's office responsible for defense, Comrade Sekeremayi, has said the deployment of loyal forces, which include among them the units of the 5th Brigade, was the most appropriate measure to deal with the banditry in the area. The minister added that such a force was best because the bandits were being supported by local people in the affected areas.

Comrade Sekeremayi stressed that the government will crush the ZAPU bandits and would not deviate from that task because certain people are presenting arguments on the number of dissidents killed and collaborators who die in the crossfire. The minister added that politically motivated acts of banditry is not a game of numbers.

The minister of information, posts, and telecommunications, Comrade Swamuyariara, has also talked on the security situation, praising the country's defense forces for their wonderful work in dealing with the dissidents. In a statement issued last night, the minister warned foreign correspondents who collaborate with ZAPU in spreading false stories about the activities of the security forces in Matabeleland that they will be dealt with ruthlessly.

Comrade Swamuyariara said Nkomo's allegations about murders and brutalities committed by the 5th Brigade are a fabrication of his frustrated mind.

He said such lies are calculated to discourage investors and donors in Zimbabwe. Comrade Shamuyariara said Nkomo fled to Botswana not to resolve any situation in this country but to spread lies about Zimbabwe.

Meanwhile, in ZAPU itself a split has been reported to be looming after Nkomo's self-imposed exile. Some members of the ZAPU Central Committee are quoted as saying he will cease to be president of the party if he decides to stay in exile. One of the Central Committee members said Nkomo's unilateral action to leave the country is a blow to the future of ZAPU as a political organization. Another said all ZAPU members who are loyal to the government cannot suffer just because of one man, adding that it is up to them to prove that they are not part and parcel of Joshua Nkomo's illegal action.

Government Reaction

AB100833 Paris AFP in English 0802 GMT 10 Mar 83

[Excerpt] Harare, Mar 10 (AFP) -- Joshua Nkomo's flight to Botswana on Tuesday was illegal and the Zimbabwe Government regards the opposition leader as a fugitive from justice, Home Affairs (Interior) Minister Hebert Ushewokunze said. Mr Ushewokunze told the national newspaper THE HERALD that a member of Botswana President Quett Masire's staff had met Mr Nkomo after he crossed into the neighboring country "disguised as a fat old woman" and traveling in a Land Rover through rough bush southwest of Bulawayo. Mr Nkomo then traveled from Francistown, northeastern Botswana, [words indistinct].

The government-controlled newspaper carried a tough front-page editorial today in which it accused Botswana of "declaring war on us" by admitting Mr Nkomo illegally and allowing anti-government Zimbabwean dissidents to train at the Dukwe refugee camp in northeastern Botswana. The Gaborone government has publicly warned Zimbabwean refugees at Dukwe against using Botswana territory for subversive activities against the Harare government of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe.

The Zimbabwean home affairs minister said Mr Nkomo's departure was illegal because he did not use a border post and because police were still holding his passport, which they seized last month when they stopped him going on a trip to South Africa and Europe. In addition, Mr Ushewokunze said, Mr Nkomo had had an appointment with Bulawayo police for yesterday, when he was to have been informed of the beginning of formal criminal proceedings against him for allegedly dealing illegally in emeralds, infringing currency laws and breaking security legislation by spreading alarm and despondency. The latter charge arises from Mr Nkomo's publicizing reports of mass killings of civilians by soldiers in the southwestern region of Matabeleland during the Army's drive against armed dissidents, mainly former Nkomo guerrillas.

Mr Ushewokunze said Botswana and Zimbabwe had no extradition treaty, but they had similar immigration laws and Gaborone could deport Mr Nkomo to Zimbabwe if it wished. The Botswana Government, in announcing Mr Nkomo's arrival, said he intended to remain "temporarily while he explores possible ways of assisting to resolve the situation in his country. While he is in Botswana, he does not intend to speak to the press." But in its editorial, THE HERALD said Mr Nkomo was "obviously in Botswana to direct dissident activities against this country." (?The paper) gave a lengthy list of [words indistinct] by Gaborone with regard to ZAPU "dissidents," including an allegation that guerrillas from Dukwe were allowed four weeks ago to go for further military training in South Africa, the powerful white-ruled neighbor to both Zimbabwe and Botswana with whom Gaborone is on much better terms than Harare. [Passage indistinct]

ZAPU Offices Closed

AB091907 Paris AFP in English 1900 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Harare, March 9 (AFP) -- The Zimbabwean Government today announced it has closed seven offices of the ZAPU opposition party of Joshua Nkomo, who has fled Zimbabwe for Botswana. Cabinet Minister Enos Nkala told the official news agency ZIANA, today that the government has shut down all the offices in the Matabeleland south province of Mr Nkomo's Zimbabwe African People's Union after illegal weapons were found in each of the offices.

Before his departure for Botswana Tuesday, Mr Nkomo had charged that Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's government and party were out to "destroy ZAPU completely" and he said that he felt "hopeless" about the situation. Mr Nkomo alleged that the government had tried to kill him and said that nine members of his party's Central Committee have been killed by the Army (?and many) other local officials have been either killed or arrested by the Army. It has been widely reported that the Army has killed more than 1,000 civilians in the nearby Matabeleland north province, another stronghold of Mr Nkomo's party in southwestern Zimbabwe.

Mr. Nkala said that the government had controlled the dissident situation in the Matabeleland south province where Army and police units are "unearthing guns and arresting ZAPU leaders." [Words indistinct] leaders who were being hunted by the government have [word indistinct] left Zimbabwe for Botswana. He said [words indistinct] wanted for hoarding weapons and aiding (?dissidents).

"We have hit ZAPU right at its roots," Mr. Nkala said. "As an organization ZAPU is on the run in Matabeleland south and people are now openly denouncing the party and its leader, Nkomo, for sponsoring dissidents." The Matabeleland south province has been a centre of support for Mr. Nkomo's party but the government minister said that the party of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe was benefitting from the current situation. "Our party is now busy selling membership cards," he said. "A lot of people are now surrending their ZAPU cards ... there are bags of ZAPU cards in our offices and these people are joining (Mr. Mugabe's party) freely and voluntarily."